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Thursday, February 19, 2009

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From a Dancing Chili to Dashing Dogs - It was Family Weekend!!

County Voice reporter, Mark Arike got into the Chili Cook-off spirit as he danced around the hall in a Chili costume adding to the festivities.

For story see pg. 13
and for more pictures
see pgs. 14 & 15



The Annual Sled-Dog Races saw over 70 teams compete. For more pictures see pg. 21

Photo by Lyn Winans

Photo by
Joanne Irvine

Minden Hills Budget Tops the Scales

Liz Daniels
Staff Reporter

Local Woman Challenges Council's Budget Management

"We all understand that mistakes occur. It's how these mistakes are handled that restores credibility and confidence."
(Shelley Houser)

The Minden Hills 2009 budget was adopted last Thursday morning, and at \$8,670,292 it tops the scales for tax levies in the county with a 12.4 percent increase.

Despite entreaties to investigate reductions - and the absence of Reeve Jim McMahon and Councillor Peter Oyler (who is responsible for the Finance Committee) - Council agreed to move forward in a three to two vote.

Shelley Houser, speaking to Council as a delegation, voiced some serious concerns about management of the budget process. She reminded Council that they had been elected to ensure that the interests of the taxpayers were their first priority and responsibility. She also said that the ratepayers should be able to trust each member of Council to do their homework on all issues before committing taxpayers' dollars and that they should be accountable for efficient governance.

Houser voiced her concern about the 2008 deficit, but said that regardless of the reasons for the deficit, it would be unreasonable for Council to expect taxpayers to have confidence in a corporation that could not detect a deficit of that magnitude (\$375,000) until after their year end.

Houser also said that management of the dressing room project, which was so far over budget, was another example of eroding confidence in the municipality. She asked who had been allowed to write out and sign cheques for project overruns without either the knowledge or approval of all council members.

Houser urged those present to delay voting on the budget until the full council could take a closer look at it and ensure they were making choices that could be justified under intense scrutiny, without any further hidden surprises. She said that given the present economic climate, more investigation was required by council to reduce expenses as other municipalities have done.

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**Inside
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\$6.45 Million Dollars for Infrastructure Allocated Throughout Haliburton County - Concern Continues About Airport Project

Liz Daniels

Staff Reporter

No one could say that Friday the 13th was unlucky for municipalities in Ontario with Building Canada Infrastructure announcements allocating over \$1 billion dollars in spending initiatives.

The funds are targeted for 289 infrastructure projects in

Ontario communities with populations of fewer than 100,000 people. The County, Dysart, Minden and Algonquin Highlands will all benefit from the hefty allocation of funding.

In Haliburton County almost \$6.5 million dollars was targeted for bridge projects, road improvements, water infrastructure and airport improvements.

This announcement wraps up an intake of project applications that concluded late last year. The original goal of the federal and provincial governments was to fund a total of \$300 million dollars in infrastructure projects. However, in part through discussions with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Canada and Ontario increased this amount in order to put the funding to work in Ontario communities as quickly as possible.

Peter Hume, President of AMO, said, "Ontario municipalities of all sizes are struggling with a massive infrastructure deficit that undermines our competitiveness and productivity. Investing in municipal infrastructure is an investment in jobs and prosperity and Ontario municipalities are prepared to put this investment to work right away."

The County of Haliburton was allocated \$1.75 million dollars toward the total cost of \$2,629,998 for rehabilitation of the Allsaw Bridge and repaving of the section of County Road 21 that runs from Soyers Lake to the Delta Pinestone.

Warden Dave Burton said, "I'm more than pleased with the news that these projects will be proceeding. This infusion of money into the local economy will certainly generate new jobs while the projects are under construction."

Minden Hills will receive \$1.6 million dollars towards the total project cost of \$2,406,250 for construction of an elevated water storage tank. CAO Gerry Morrison said, "We received a half million dollars for our Lutterworth water system, a million dollars for the cultural centre and we've just been successful again. That's a pretty good track record for the management of the Municipality, and I'm proud of every single one of them."

The storage tank will be located next to the existing underground reservoir on St. Germaine Street. The existing reservoir will be demolished once the new system is in place.

Dysart et al will receive almost \$575,000 toward the total cost of \$862,150 to replace the Pine Lake Bridge. Reeve Murray Farrey said, "We're very pleased about the announcement. It is a project that would have been placed completely on the backs of the taxpayers if we hadn't received the funding and for that we're very appreciative. We're project ready, so hopefully we can get the work underway during 2009 and create some jobs."

Highlands East didn't submit an application during this intake. Reeve Burton said that the Municipality received close to a million dollars for projects last year, which didn't require matching funds. He said, "It will take us a bit more time to have a project construction ready, but we will be submitting an application during the next round."

The biggest allocation in the County was to Algonquin Highlands. The municipality will receive just over \$2.5 million to-

"The infusion of money into the local economy will certainly generate jobs." (Warden Dave Burton)

ward the expansion of the Stanhope Airport. Total costs for the expansion are presently estimated at \$3.7 million for a project that is expected to enhance economic development in the area. Neither Reeve Eleanor Harrison, who is on holidays, or CAO Lorne Mitchell were available for comment. While there is no question that most of the Algonquin Highlands Council will be

very pleased to hear that they have been successful in their application for funding, rumblings are already being heard about the project.

Members of the executive of the Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes Area Property Owners Association (MBC) have already prepared an open letter to the residents of Algonquin Highlands, expressing their desire to continue to fight against the project gaining any further momentum. (See letters to the Editor in this issue.)

MBC President, Paul MacInnes said, "After our initial shock and disbelief, we will pick ourselves up and dust ourselves off and let people know that the fight is not over."

There has been some talk in the past of the County partnering with Algonquin Highlands on the airport. When asked if the County would consider assuming any responsibility after the project is completed, Burton said, "I haven't heard any desire around the County table to support the project. In fact, given the uncertainty of the economy, the airport could be seen as a liability for the County." Burton acknowledged that the majority of people in the area don't want the expansion project to proceed. He said, "Even if we were asked, I think we would have to be prudent and I'm not sure we could commit any funds towards a joint venture like that."

While approval of these funding applications is based on the projects being 'shovel-ready' there are still a few hurdles to clear before funding of certain projects is approved for both Minden Hills and Algonquin Highlands. Any projects associated with water/sewer infrastructure or airport development and transportation projects receiving funding from the federal government are required to complete full environmental assessments prior to proceeding.

Federal Transport Minister John Baird has agreed to fast-track environmental assessments by slashing some of the associated red tape to expedite projects. Baird said, "You could have a project that has already gone through a provincial EA, but the minute we give a federal dollar, it has to stop the process and go through another 18 months of paperwork."

Baird praised Premier Dalton McGuinty, who has imposed a six-month environmental assessment cap on new public transit projects. He also agreed that there should only be one assessment for one project and consideration is being given to downloading the requirements for environmental assessments to the province.

Minden Hills is in the process of completing the environmental assessment for their elevated water storage tank, but some work is still required to review soil and ground conditions for the site. In the case of the Stanhope Airport, no formal environmental assessment process has taken place to date.

Municipalities are on the hook for one third of the total project costs and projects must be completed within a two year period. The next intake under the Build Canada Fund-Communities Component will be launched through a public announcement later this year. As a result of the recent federal budget and a commitment from the province to match new federal investments, more than \$400 million dollars in combined federal and provincial funding may be available for future intakes. ■



NOTICE

The Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c.25, s251

Pursuant to Section 238 (2) of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, Council for the Municipality of Highlands East proposes to enact a procedure by-law for governing the calling, place and proceedings of meetings at the regular Council meeting scheduled on March 10, 2009. The Council meeting commences at 9:00 a.m. and is held at the Council Chambers, Wilberforce, Ontario

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Fido and Fluffy get Emergency Assistance Gear

Minden Animal Hospital Donates Pet Oxygen Masks to Minden Fire Department

Photos & Story By:
Lyn Winans



Thanks to a donation of pet oxygen masks to the local fire department, the Minden emergency crew is now better equipped than ever to handle pet-related emergencies.

Fire Chief, Doug Schell was on hand last week to accept a set of life-saving masks from local veterinarians Dr. Carol Sanio and Dr. Jill Zigomanis of the Minden Animal Hospital. Invisible Fence representative Steve Welch and his sidekick Wylie demonstrated the correct use of the masks.

The pet oxygen mask kit, was supplied to Minden Animal Hospital by Invisible Fence Brand in exchange for its donation to the Farley Foundation - a charitable organization started by cartoonist Lynn Johnson, which assists seniors, disabled individuals and women at risk by subsidizing the non-elective veterinary care of their pets. ■



Doug Schell & Steve Welch (and Wylie)

(L-R) Minden Fire Chief Doug Schell, Invisible Fence Representative Steve Welch, Dr. Sanio and Dr. Zigomanis try out one of the new oxygen masks on Wylie

THURSDAY

Windy with snow showers
▲ -5° ▼ -13°

FRIDAY

Windy and cold with snow showers
▲ -9° ▼ -16°

SATURDAY

Mostly cloudy with snow showers
▲ -6° ▼ -12°

SUNDAY

Mostly cloudy with flurries
▲ -5° ▼ -12°

MONDAY

Partly to mostly cloudy skies
▲ -3° ▼ -11°

TUESDAY

Continued partly to mostly cloudy
▲ -4° ▼ -10°

WEDNESDAY

Chance of light snow
▲ -2° ▼ -7°

AROUND THE REGION: It will be windy and cold on Thursday and Friday with snow showers likely each day, especially on Thursday. Highs will be in the single digits below zero. Snow showers will linger on Saturday while flurries will be likely on Sunday. Highs will remain in the single digits below zero.

Your Unofficial Lotto Numbers

649
Feb 14, 2009
16 25 29 37 45 49
Bonus Number 20
Encore 6539225

SUPER 7
Feb 13, 2009
05 08 11 20 30 33 45
Bonus Number 26
Encore 8071819

TROPICAL CITIES							
City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk
Acapulco	32/22/pc	31/22/pc	33/25/pc	Montego Bay	28/22/sh	28/23/su	28/22/su
Antigua	28/22/sh	29/23/su	28/23/ts	Nassau	28/21/pc	24/16/su	24/18/su
Barbados	30/24/pc	31/24/pc	29/26/su	Port au Prince	29/22/su	28/22/ts	29/24/dz
Bermuda	20/15/ra	19/13/sh	22/17/cl	Puerto Vallarta	32/19/su	31/19/su	31/14/pc
Cancun	30/22/su	27/18/pc	26/18/su	St Thomas	28/22/su	28/23/pc	28/23/pc
Curacao	31/26/pc	31/24/pc	29/22/pc	St Maarten	28/22/sh	28/22/su	28/25/pc
Freeport	26/19/sh	22/13/su	23/16/su	San Jose, CR	29/18/ts	27/17/ts	28/17/pc
Georgetown	30/24/su	31/24/ts	30/22/ts	San Juan	28/22/su	28/22/pc	28/25/su
Havana	27/19/su	25/18/su	24/15/pc	San Salvador	32/21/pc	32/22/pc	32/20/su
Key West	26/18/sh	24/16/su	21/16/pc	Santo Domingo	29/23/su	29/22/ts	30/23/su
Kingston	29/23/sh	28/22/su	31/28/ts	Trinidad	31/25/su	31/24/ts	31/26/ts

REGIONAL CITIES							
City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	Sunday HI/Lo/Otk	Monday HI/Lo/Otk	Tuesday HI/Lo/Otk	Wednesday HI/Lo/Otk
Bancroft	-5/-13/sn	-9/-16/sf	-6/-12/sf	-6/-12/sf	-3/-11/cl	-4/-10/cl	-2/-8/sn
Barrie	-4/-12/sn	-8/-9/sf	-4/-11/sf	-4/-12/sf	-2/-9/cl	-3/-9/cl	-1/-7/sn
Dorset	-6/-13/sn	-9/-16/sf	-6/-12/sf	-6/-12/sf	-3/-11/cl	-4/-11/cl	-2/-8/sn
Haliburton	-5/-13/sn	-9/-16/sf	-6/-12/sf	-6/-12/sf	-3/-11/cl	-4/-10/cl	-2/-7/sn
Huntsville	-6/-13/sn	-9/-16/sf	-6/-12/sf	-6/-12/sf	-3/-11/cl	-4/-11/cl	-2/-8/sn
Kingston	-4/-11/sn	-7/-14/sf	-4/-9/sf	-4/-9/sf	-2/-9/cl	-3/-9/cl	-1/-7/sn
Lindsay	-4/-12/sn	-8/-14/sf	-4/-11/sf	-4/-12/sf	-3/-11/cl	-4/-10/cl	-2/-8/sn
Minden	-5/-13/sn	-9/-16/sf	-6/-12/sf	-5/-12/sf	-3/-11/cl	-4/-10/cl	-2/-8/sn
Oshawa	-4/-11/sn	-7/-14/sf	-4/-9/sf	-4/-9/sf	-2/-9/cl	-3/-9/cl	-1/-7/sn
Ottawa	-5/-12/sn	-6/-15/sf	-3/-11/sf	-4/-11/sf	-4/-12/cl	-4/-12/pc	-3/-9/sn
Toronto	-4/-11/sn	-7/-14/sf	-3/-8/sf	-3/-9/sf	-1/-8/cl	-1/-8/cl	0/-6/sn

NATIONAL CITIES							
City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	Sunday HI/Lo/Otk	Monday HI/Lo/Otk	Tuesday HI/Lo/Otk	Wednesday HI/Lo/Otk
Calgary	-3/-13/su	1/-8/su	0/-8/su	0/-9/sn	-2/-12/sn	-4/-13/cl	-2/-13/cl
Edmonton	-4/-14/sf	-3/-11/pc	-1/-14/cl	-4/-13/sf	-7/-14/sn	-8/-16/cl	-8/-18/cl
Fredericton	-1/-8/su	-1/-9/sf	1/-7/sf	-3/-9/sn	-3/-11/sf	-6/-11/pc	-5/-9/pc
Halifax	2/-4/mx	0/-6/pc	1/0/cl	3/0/sf	-3/-3/sf	0/-2/pc	1/-4/pc
Montreal	-4/-10/sn	-5/-13/sf	-2/-8/sf	-4/-11/sf	-4/-11/cl	-6/-11/pc	-4/-9/sn
Regina	-9/-18/pc	-7/-16/pc	-6/-19/su	-6/-17/sf	-9/-15/sn	-9/-16/sf	-8/-13/pc
St. John's	-1/-7/pc	6/-2/mx	2/2/mx	1/1/cl	5/1/mx	3/0/sn	2/-1/cl
Saskatoon	-11/-18/sf	-6/-12/pc	-3/-13/pc	-7/-13/cl	-9/-11/sn	-9/-13/sf	-8/-12/pc
Vancouver	8/2/pc	9/2/pc	8/3/sh	8/4/mx	8/3/mx	7/4/cl	7/2/sf
Whitehorse	-5/-12/sf	-7/-14/sf	-13/-14/sn	-17/-21/cl	-15/-28/pc	-17/-29/sf	-18/-26/sf
Winnipeg	-12/-19/cl	-12/-19/cl	-10/-18/cl	-7/-19/cl	-6/-14/sf	-7/-18/sn	-8/-16/pc

AREA ALMANAC

Last seven days	High	Low	Prec.
Monday 2/16	-1°C	-19°C	0.0 mm
Sunday 2/15	-2°C	-17°C	0.0 mm
Saturday 2/14	0°C	-17°C	0.0 mm
Friday 2/13	-4°C	-13°C	0.0 mm
Thursday 2/12	6°C	-7°C	20.0 mm
Wednesday 2/11	7°C	5°C	3.3 mm
Tuesday 2/10	6°C	-5°C	0.5 mm

SUN & MOON

	Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set
Thu.	7:08 a.m./5:48 p.m.	4:10 a.m./12:22 p.m.
Fri.	7:07 a.m./5:49 p.m.	4:52 a.m./12:22 p.m.
Sat.	7:05 a.m./5:51 p.m.	5:27 a.m./12:27 p.m.
Sun.	7:04 a.m./5:52 p.m.	5:56 a.m./12:33 p.m.
Mon.	7:02 a.m./5:54 p.m.	6:20 a.m./12:40 p.m.
Tues.	7:00 a.m./5:55 p.m.	6:41 a.m./12:48 p.m.
Wed.	6:59 a.m./5:56 p.m.	7:00 a.m./12:56 p.m.

Readings from Haliburton/Stanhope Airport
www.stanhopeairport.com

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March 10

March 18

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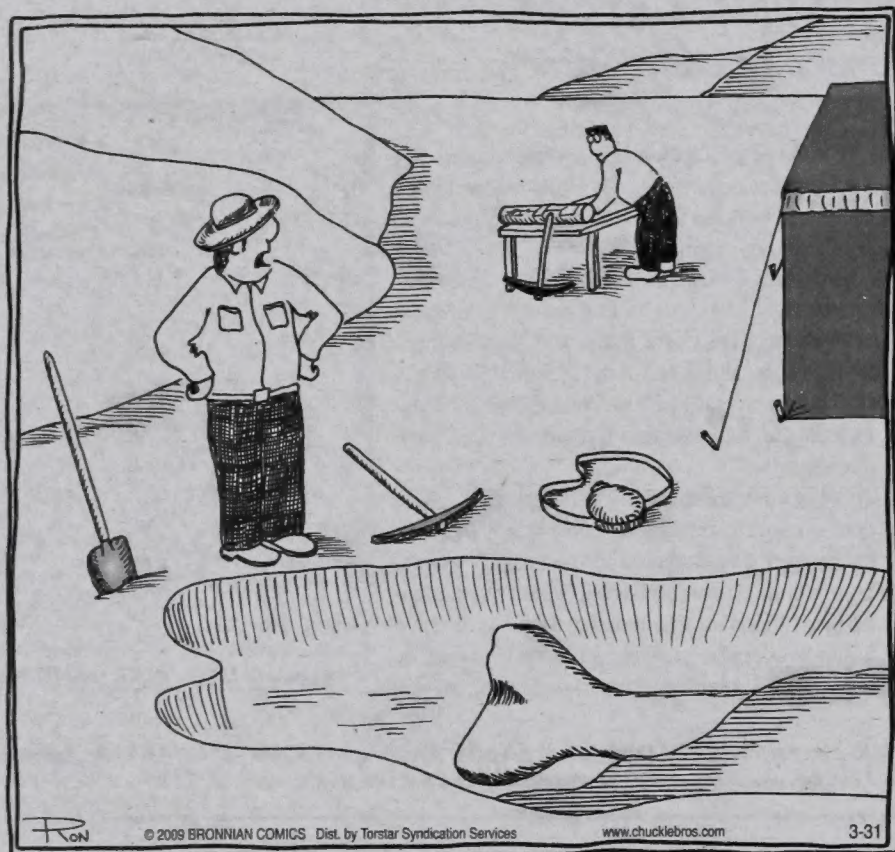
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I've got a bone to pick with you."

Letter of the Week

Dear Editor:

Yes Arizona is Interested....

This is a belated response to Liz Danielsen's story in the October 16th issue of the County Voice on the County Cycling plan. You're wondering why someone in Arizona would be interested. We are Ex. Pat. Canadians, living in Arizona and summer residents of Minden. I am an avid cyclist - mountain and road. I have researched area roads for two things - a safe (from traffic) riding route and road surface quality. Here is what I've learned.

County Road 21 at first glance looks good but its paved shoulder varies in width from maybe a meter down to 25-30 cm. - not an inviting prospect with large trucks and wide mirrors close to cyclists. The quality of the pavement is variable.

Highway 35 was recently widened and repaved. The pavement is excellent and a joy to ride. The shoulders however vary from as much as 2 meters (excellent) for 300 - 400 meters and then narrows to -25 cms. Too close to traffic for safety.

Highway 118 from Carnarvon towards Bracebridge has good pavement and a consistent 1.5-meters of paved shoulder for thirty miles west. This has become my preferred route.

Deep Bay Road from downtown Minden to Highway 35 at Moores Falls is about 20K. The pavement is generally poor, with some sections upgraded but no shoulder to speak of, but so little traffic I feel safe using it.

Pavement conditions are a major consideration to road riders who don't have suspension, ride on 23-25 mm tires at 100-110 lbs pressure. Rough pavement is uncomfortable and there is a risk of flattening.

Mountain Bikers have a potential world class facility in the rail line out of the village of Haliburton, but it needs attention. Ultimately ATV's and bikes don't mix well, although the few that I have encountered on the trail were really very courteous. I suppose the monitors help. The first section to be improved should be the 100-meters long submerged section. Hard core off roaders might enjoy this, but if you want to attract families and casual riders, they would not be happy with the difficult sections like this one.

A detailed map showing commercial establishments, mileage, towns and crossroads, would be helpful.

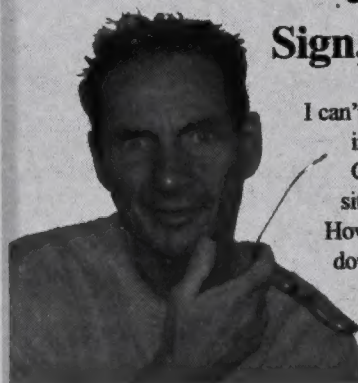
The problem with getting shoulder bike lanes on existing roads is that it has to wait for major road reconstruction projects, which are few and far between. So I guess the best bet for attracting hordes of cyclists to Haliburton County is to get to work and improve the rail line trail.

Sincerely
Ed Slamon
Arizona ■

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

by Terrance Gavan

Sign, Sign, Everywhere a Sign



I can't remember much about the 10 years I spent in university earning my undergraduate degree in political studies at St Pats College, Carleton University, St Johns College and the University of Manitoba.

However, a run-in with some Frost Fest kids riding electoral signs down a toboggan run dropped me back to my ninth year at the U of M, and a project we did for a third year Political Investigation course called "the science of electoral signage and a predictive analysis of federal election results."

We drove around St. Boniface and St. Vital, just across the river from the University of Manitoba campus counting candidate signs. We had the two ridings cross-hatched with a very impressive array of street plans, the various avenues and cul-de-sacs highlighted on a large riding map on a wall in the classroom. Six of us involved in the study were assigned territories to cover. The project centered on a predictive analysis of party placement in the federal election through the simple counting of election signs.

Formulaic attributes were input into a computer program for each of the two ridings based on our two solid weeks of sign counts. It was boring work and we all harboured separate doubts regarding the efficacy of the premise.

Long story short, our class predicted almost exactly the final tallies for all three parties in each of the two ridings. We got an A and I discovered, on that election night, a newfound and abiding respect for the polling process. I later went on to work for a semester with pollster Angus Reid when he was a jeans-wearing yuppie heading his burgeoning polling company based at that time in downtown Winnipeg. I remember that every Friday afternoon Angus would pull up to the back door of the office with enough pizza and beer to keep his twenty-something staffers happily ensconced in the meddling business of cold-call phone polling.

I remember a conversation with Angus one Friday. I told him of our success with the sign counting. I told him that going into the project I really didn't think we had a snowball's chance.

He just winked and smiled. "You'd be surprised what you can learn from a few signs," laughed Angus.

I was bumped backward, oddly enough, at the sight of a large number of happy kids sliding down the Frost Fest toboggan run on by-election candidate signs next to the caboose at Head Lake Park last weekend.

John Tory's signs were not made of the right stuff apparently, so the kids were utilizing the 'rear-end friendly' signs of Liberal candidate Rick Johnson and the Green's Mike Schreiner.

Years of political science training kicked in. I put my camera down and went to work.

I managed to catch up with one young gentleman as he headed up the hill for his 30th run of the day. The red paint on his Liberal sign was scraped and bruised and you could just barely make out the telltale outline of the candidate's name.

The sledder's name was Timmy O'Halloran, he was five, and he hailed from Lindsay, Ontario. "Timmy I see you're using Liberal signage as your ride of choice today, is that because you're in favour of Dalton McGuinty's sweeping economic reform package and his bracing call for infrastructure initiatives?"

Young Timmy squinted up through the bright sun like I had just descended from Mars. "Dalty who?" asked Tim.

"McGuinty, the Premiere of Ontario," I said. "You're sliding on a Liberal sign Timmy."

Timmy smiled knowingly. "Red signs go fast, fast, fast ... wheeeee!"

I looked over at young six-year-old Tabitha Hanratty who was riding a Mike Schreiner Green Party toboggan. "How about you Tabitha, I notice you like the Green Party sign. Any chance for a comment vis-à-vis your views regarding the Ontario Green Party's policies on reduce, reuse and recycle?"

"My Green sign goes vroom, vroom, vroom, but I leave no carbon footprint ... wheee!" shouted Tabitha, narrowly edging out Timmy in a head-to-head run down the Frost Fest slide.

And no, I don't have any solid predictions just yet.

I've taken the requisite data home; and input it all into my new MacBook Air.

It's still crunching numbers and grinding away on its intimidating 160 gigabyte hard drive. Every five minutes it sends a pop up message. "Processing data on Drive A. Please be patient. It's all downhill from here."

I had no idea they were making Apple products with a sense of humour.

I hope to have results by next week, but don't hold your breath. Better yet, just get out and vote on March 5. Angus Reid once told me that ballots cast remains the most accurate harbinger of voter trends. ■

The County Voice Inc.

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More Letters to the Editor

Minden Hills Budget Cont'd....

... from pg. 1

Dear Editor:

An Open Letter to the Taxpayers of Algonquin Highlands and all Haliburtonians:

Building Canada's decision to fund a portion of the cost of the new runway at Stanhope Airport has dealt a severe blow to the people of Algonquin Highlands - a blow to our confidence in our political system.

We entrust our elected officials to represent our best interests; to spend and invest our hard earned dollars wisely. We expect them to put our collective interests above their personal pet projects. We expect value for our dollars.

This project gives us none of this.

The members of council who pushed this project forward chose to override the enormous swell of public opposition, indeed indignation, from all corners of the Township, to pursue a project that has no identifiable or quantifiable merits. None.

In spite of all the attempts by council to stonewall the public, people learned the facts about this project and opposition grew. The councillor who did the most research became the most opposed to it.

A \$4-million project without merit. All of the dollars coming from us as taxpayers - federally, provincially and locally. Wham! And here's the irony: over the last number of years this community has fought hard to keep our libraries and community centres open with relatively negligible funding from this same council. At the same time our volunteer fire department budget was stripped of critically needed funding - the very same department that will be called upon for specialized training, equipment and faster response times to respond to fires from the larger planes that are supposedly going to use this new runway.

Airport ahead of community. Airport before effective emergency and fire protection.

Shame on these councillors and shame on the federal government that too willingly is providing millions of our monies, against our collective will, for a project that offers no tangible benefits.

We will continue to pursue all remedies to stop this incredible waste of taxpayers' dollars.

At this moment our political system has failed us. The repair it needs will only come through continued participation; input and diligence from people who care enough to stand up and be heard.

Signed:
Executive of The Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes Area Property Owners Association ■

Dear Editor:

Writer Praises Magic Hockey Helmet Blog

I just wanted to take a moment to tell you how much I enjoyed Terry's blog (column) on the Magic Hockey Helmet which was written and performed by my son, Miller. Of course, Miller loves it too! I have read your blog several times now and the reason I enjoy it so much is because it summarizes exactly what Miller's message is all about.

I am keeping a scrap book of things relating to Miller's 15 minutes of fame so that he can look back at this time during his adult years. I can assure you that your blog is at the front of the book.

At this time, there have been almost 170,000 viewers of Miller's video and almost 100 minor sports associations and teams that have linked his video to their website. I hope that in the end his work will make a difference in hockey arenas, soccer fields and baseball diamonds. But it wouldn't be possible without generous people like you who take the time to promote his message.

Thank you again for your support.

Mike Donnelly
(Sudbury, Ontario) ■

Houser said there was a limit to how much the taxpayers were prepared to give to an elected organization that cannot manage either their projects or public funds. She urged Council to take steps to prevent these cost overruns from happening again. "We all understand that mistakes occur. It's how these mistakes are handled that restores credibility and confidence," said Houser.

Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch's said that she did not agree with Houser's conclusions. Showing the extent of the rift in Council however, Councillor Bill Obee said, "You've brought some excellent points forward and we appreciate hearing your concerns."

In addressing and adopting the estimates of revenues and expenditures for 2009, Councillor Barbara Reid referred to an e-mail that she - along with her colleagues - had sent to the CAO and Treasurer suggesting some possibilities for reductions in spending. Reid said she had received no feedback from council at all. She said she was uncomfortable approving a budget that represented such a large increase without going back and conducting another review. She said, "We all agree that the costs are too high, but there seems to be no plan to address them. This is like a self-fulfilling prophesy."

Obee agreed that it made all kinds of sense to go back and review the budget again. He said, "I'm unaware of any reason that this has to be done (passed) today and I'd like to see that happen."

Murdoch concluded the open session and council adjourned to

Dear Editor:

To the candidates in the by-election for the riding of Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock:

We moved to Haliburton County in October of 2007 from Grey County. We were fortunate to be accepted as patients by the Haliburton Family Health Clinic. We have received the best medical care we could ever ask for. Except for one problem.

My wife requires regular blood testing. In the Town of Durham hospital in Grey County, this procedure was accomplished with a wait-time of no longer than 30 minutes, ever. In Minden hospital, from the start, the wait time has been at least one hour, frequently longer. On February 9, 2009, it took two hours and twenty minutes. Other folk in the waiting room were close to fainting for the lack of food. Everyone was exasperated and frustrated. Some left because they could not afford the time away from their job.

It is obvious to me, that the lone lab technician, who is doing everything, including paper work and computer entries, needs assistance in administrative matters to speed things up. I contacted the provider of the blood testing service, Life Labs at 1-877-404-0637 and explained my problem to the manager. The manager investigated and called me back on February 13, 2009, stating that things are working quite normally, and that my wife should change her day for testing to Friday, since Friday is a slower day than the rest of the week.

This would mean that if her test showed the necessity to change her medication, she would not find out until Monday, or as this week with a Holiday Monday, a loss of two or three days, that could prove to be fatal. This is not a risk I am willing to take. This blood testing service provided by Life Labs is contracted and paid for by the Ministry of Health of Ontario. I believe it is unacceptable that patients needing this simple procedure should have to wait more than 30 minutes at the busiest of times.

Since quite a large number of people in the Minden area are affected by this Service, I respectfully ask the candidates for their comment to this newspaper on the problem stated.

Sincerely
Karl Braeker
Norland ■

a closed session, apparently for further discussion on the budget.

When council returned to the special session called to discuss the budget, Obee reaffirmed his desire to look at certain aspects of the budget again. Reid agreed that members of council needed to sharpen their pencils, saying that a 12.4 percent increase was extreme.

Considerable discussion took place with Councillor Lisa Schell recommending that the Economic Development Master Plan be dropped from the budget in order to realize some savings. Reid suggested that the plan could remain in the budget if other reductions were made. She said, "I think we can find a way to do both." She added that this is a time when Council should be looking forward and that economic development puts jobs in place and provides an opportunity for a brighter future.

Councillor Rick Ratcliff said that while he accepted where Reid and Obee were coming from, a commitment had been made by the Treasurer and CAO to follow up the passage of the by-law with a review of the budget, seeking further reductions. He said, "We should be able to realize some gains, and any found monies will help the municipality in the future." Ratcliff was concerned that the municipality should have money available to match funding for infrastructure projects that may be approved. He also said that 2010 would likely be equally difficult and any savings could be put toward keeping expenses down then.

Reid was adamant that the Council should avail itself of the opportunity to go back and review the budget. When Schell said that had already been done, Reid reminded Council that their review had been done prior to any knowledge of a deficit.

Murdoch advised Council that they had each had an opportunity to speak and asked for a vote. Not unexpectedly, there was a tie vote with Ratcliff and Schell voting for the budget and Obee and Reid voting against it. Ratcliffe said that his vote was made with the understanding that the CAO and Treasurer would be addressing each department and looking for cost savings.

Murdoch, who said very little throughout the process, broke the tie and voted to approve the budget.

Reid later said, "I do not believe it is fiscally responsible to pass a budget and hope to find savings later. We should have used the last six weeks to take another look at where we could cut costs and manage the tax increase implications instead of pushing this budget through Council. Minden Hills has followed the path of least resistance." ■

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Kathryn Verduyn, Director of Education

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter

On several occasions, Kathryn Verduyn, Director of Education for the Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB), acknowledged how difficult a Program and Accommodation Review process is for both the communities and committees involved.

On Wednesday, February 11, members of both the Wilberforce and Cardiff communities made their way to the second public consultation meeting held at the Wilberforce Elementary School to have their say in a procedure that could influence what happens to the institutions they hold so dear. The first public input consultation was held at Cardiff Elementary School back in December.

Due to declining enrolment at both schools and the threat of quadruple-grade class sizes, a decision was made in September of last year at a regular TLDSB meeting to proceed with a program and accommodation review. Shortly thereafter, the TLDSB put together a Program and Accommodation Review Committee (PARC).

Wilberforce Struggles to Keep School Doors Open

Program and Accommodation Review Process Continues with Public Input in Wilberforce

The committee consists of teachers, support staff, parents, TLDSB representatives, a local businessman, a municipal representative and Elaine Fournier, Principal of the Cardiff and Wilberforce Elementary Schools. One of the recent noticeable changes to the board is the appointment of new committee chairperson Judy Saunders. Saunders, a Trustee for the City of Kawartha Lakes, took over for Rick Johnson who had to take a leave of absence to pursue a run at the Liberal candidacy in the upcoming by-election in the riding of Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock.

The Program and Accommodation Review process is used at schools to see where challenges lie in providing a "suitable and equitable range of learning opportunities for students, and where there may be a need to consider the possible consolidation, closure or program relocation of one or more schools." It's a process that is not only going on at the Wilberforce and Cardiff schools, but it's also taking place at nearly half of the 72 public school boards in Ontario.

About 50 people crowded into a portable at Wilberforce Elementary School for the Wednesday evening meeting, some of whom were also at the first input consultation in Cardiff.

Prior to getting into the presentation and readings of submitted letters, updates on past meetings were given.

Verduyn (who is not on the PARC) was first to take the floor, and she explained the significance of this process while emphasizing the importance of keeping the needs of students in mind.

She also assured them that no decisions have been made as to what will happen with the schools.

"We're here for the same reason," she began. "We want to give our kids the best education they can have ... we're here with a very large team. We want this thing to be as transparent as it can be. A lot of heart has gone into the discussions that this committee has had and will continue to have."

One of the first tasks that the PARC was assigned to complete were valuation framework studies on both schools. In this step, committee members were asked to examine the value of the school to the student, the school board, the community and the local economy. One group worked on the valuation framework for Cardiff and another put together the summary for Wilberforce.

"The valuation framework was a bit of a daunting task for all of us," said Fournier, the principal for both schools. "We found ourselves wanting to jump ahead to possible scenarios and we had to pull ourselves back and work our way through the process." Fournier presented the framework summaries that encompassed about six hours of working time to complete for the groups.

Parents, grandparents and other active members of the community delivered the five-minute, impassioned and emotive speeches that followed. Many reflected on the memo-

ries they had of their own children attending the schools while also mentioning experiences family generations before them had experienced. Their vocal presentations also included suggestions for possible scenarios that they felt could work best for both communities.

Jeremil Hall, a mother of students who attend Wilberforce Elementary School, classified the educational institution as a "second home to her children.

"It would break my heart to see the students, teachers and educational assistants go somewhere else to continue learning and teaching," said Hall, who went on to speak highly of the stellar efforts put forth by school staff and volunteers.

She went on to make a plea to the committee to consider the positive work that already has been done by many to create a healthy and positive learning environment at Wilberforce Elementary School.

"Our children seem to enjoy all of the special activities that go on in their own school and neighbourhood," she explained. "This school is all that the students and teachers have. One thing that I'd like to say is that if it wasn't for the teachers, EA's and the volunteers, my daughter wouldn't be

improving her education."

Jayne Van Dusen, a secretary at Wilberforce Elementary School since 2007, let listeners in on her own views re the integral importance of the schools.

"I have learned what an important role small community schools play within the community itself," said Van Dusen, who compared the school to the local library and community centre. "The elementary school contributes in much the same way to the whole of the community. Start to take these things away and we may commence the erosion process of this community as we now know it," she said.

Van Dusen also drew attention to the rich history of the Wilberforce Elementary School, which was originally built in 1912.

"Some of the current students are sitting in the same classrooms as parents, grandparents and great-grandparents sat in. The ownership of this school has been passed down from generation to generation. It certainly is a statement of the commitment these families have to this community and to their community school," she said.

Van Dusen added that the school community also has a great deal of interaction with those outside of their building confines.

"The interaction of the Wilberforce Elementary School within the community seems to have no boundaries," she explained. "Such community interaction has extended to the library, skating rink, curling club, local business establishments, Point in Time after school programs, the Bible Explorers Club, and the Royal Canadian Legion"

Last year, Grades 5 and 6 Wilberforce students also reached out to work with seniors in the "When We Were Young" intergenerational project organized by Community Care.

The project, which received over \$18,000 in funding from the Government of Canada, saw students and seniors work together to produce a short story book and adapt the stories into a play using puppetry. Van Dusen called the project "mutually beneficial" for the seniors and students who collaborated on the project.

In recognizing the need for a program and accommodation review process because of "challenges posed by triple grade sizes", Van Dusen said that the committee needs to come to a solution that won't detract from the good works both the school and the community have laboured so long to create.

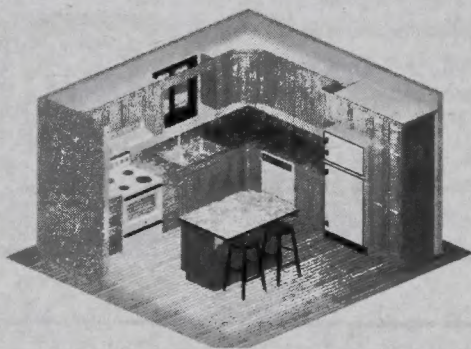
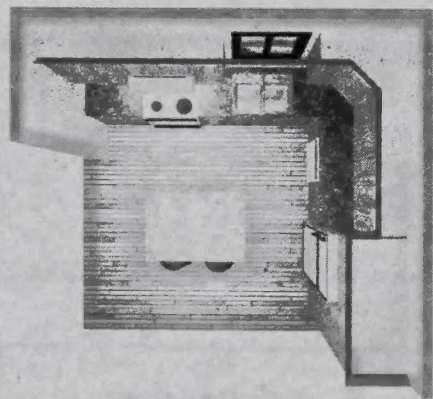
"The question is: how do we resolve this situation without removing the small community school benefits and negatively impacting this community?" she asked.

Van Dusen suggested that grades be realigned at both schools to eliminate triple grade sizes. She said that the best part of her solution is that it would allow both schools to remain open.

"It has been said many times, and by some of the members on this committee, that it takes a community to raise a child. Lets not remove the children from their communities," she said.

Schools cont'd... pg. 7...

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Schools Fight To Stay Open

... from pg. 6

Kenneth Sanderson, an 84-year old retired businessman who resides in Wilberforce, said that considering the possible closure of any school should be out of the question in all communities, especially during these turbulent economic times.

"We are in a time when we shouldn't close anything down," said Sanderson. "We are in a time when we need jobs, we need teachers, we need progress, and we need to move forward. I stand behind not only the Wilberforce school but the Cardiff School too."

Sanderson has lived in the area for a good portion of his life and gave the PARC and the rest of the audience a bit of background information on the towns of Cardiff and Wilberforce.

"Cardiff was a manufacturing town," he explained. "It was built to accommodate miners, it was not built as a progressive town ... I was in real estate for 21 years and I have a fairly good knowledge of values and assessments."

Sanderson said that during his time in the real estate business, one of the most common questions he was asked by couples considering moving to the area was "where is the school?"

"They would go on to ask about all of the other amenities such as libraries and stores, but schools always ranked very much at the top."

Sanderson added that the removal of the Wilberforce Elementary School would impact the town's assessment value more than if Cardiff lost its school.

"Let's close our eyes and pretend that the school in Cardiff was removed – God forbid that it does – it would not affect the assessment value of Cardiff simply because of its proximity to Bancroft," he said.

Sanderson went on to talk about the school in Wilberforce; a place he fondly remembers for its productive learning environment and for being the place he embarked upon his first foray into learning nearly 78 years ago.

"I was here for my complete education," he said. "This school system produced a lot of top-grade students who are here in Ontario."

He then listed off eight other schools that have come and gone in the history of the community. He called the Wilberforce Elementary School the result of the "residue of the eight schools that were closed." Sanderson firmly said, "Don't ever think of closing this."

Before closing, Sanderson reiterated the importance of keeping the schools open. He also urged the community to rally to fight for improving the facilities that are already in place.

"If we push hard enough, we should have a new school," he said. "We've got a school that's almost 100 years old. It's a good building. We can pull our grades up to Grade 8. Let's have the school board work with our community and we can do it."

Submitted letters of input were also read after the presentations concluded.

A minimum of at least two more public meetings will be held, with the next one scheduled to take place on Wednesday, April 1

"We are in a time when we need jobs, we need teachers, we need progress, we need to move forward. I stand behind not only the Wilberforce school but the Cardiff School too."

– Kenneth Sanderson, Wilberforce resident

As part of the Program and Accommodation Review process, Mitchell Architects conducted building condition reviews on both the Cardiff and Wilberforce Elementary Schools. As a result of the inspections, both buildings were deemed structurally sound and free of any major deficiencies.

Below are a few quick facts on both schools as outlined in the report.

Cardiff Elementary School

One story, wood post/glulam beam structure. Flat roof.

Concrete slab on grade, no basement or crawl space. Non-loadbearing concrete block interior walls.

Approximate overall floor area of 15,802 square-feet

Original building constructed in 1957, one addition constructed in 1958, and the final addition in 1959.

10 classrooms, one kindergarten classroom and one portable used as a gym.

Wilberforce Elementary School

One story, partial basement and crawl space, lumber framed main floor, stone rubble foundation at original structure, concrete block foundation in addition.

Original structure from loadbearing exterior masonry (assumed), loadbearing wood framed interior walls, sloped wood framed roof.

Structure for addition from loadbearing masonry interior and exterior walls, wood proprietary fluted plywood roof panels (flat roof).

Approximate overall floor area of 7,286 square-feet

The original building was completed in 1912. The addition was constructed in 1960.

Three classrooms and four portables (music room, computer lab, classroom and storage).

at 6 p.m. in the Cardiff Elementary School.

Once the Program and Accommodation Review process is complete, PARC members will make a final recommendation to the board of trustees outlining what they feel is best for the schools and students based on the information gathered. All final decisions will be in the hands of the board.

In previous meetings, Verduyn stated that status quo for the schools is not an option and that building new schools also isn't possible.

This entire process can take anywhere between eight months to two years to complete. However, this particular process is expected to be complete in time for the start of the 2009 school year.

To take a look at both valuation frameworks in their entirety and to learn more about the process, visit www.tldsb.on.ca.



ISAAC ASIMOV'S SUPER QUIZ

Take this Isaac Asimov's Super Quiz to a Ph.D. Score 1 point for each correct answer on the Freshman Level, 2 points on the Graduate Level and 3 points on the Ph.D. Level.

Subject: THE COPPER QUIZ
(e.g., What is the chemical symbol for copper? Answer: Cu.)

FRESHMAN LEVEL

1. What kind of animal is a copperhead?

Answer _____

2. Which magician and illusionist's name begins with "Copper"?

Answer _____

3. Who wrote a book titled "David Copperfield"?

Answer _____

GRADUATE LEVEL

4. What is the main ingredient in "copper pennies" made today?

Answer _____

5. What part of the Statue of Liberty is not coated in copper?

Answer _____

6. What is added to copper to make brass?

Answer _____

PH.D. LEVEL

7. Copper is a ductile metal. What does that mean?

Answer _____

8. During the Roman era, copper was principally mined on this island.

Answer _____

9. What is added to copper to make bronze?

Answer _____

ANSWERS: 1. Snake. 2. Copperfield (David). 3. Charles Dickens. 4. Zinc. 5. The flame of the torch. 6. Zinc. 7. Easily drawn into wire or hammered thin. 8. Cyprus. 9. Tin.

SCORING:

18 points — congratulations, doctor, 15 to 17 points — honors graduate; 10 to 14 points — you're plenty smart, but no grind; 4 to 9 points — you really should hit the books harder; 1 point to 3 points — enroll in remedial courses immediately; 0 points — who reads the questions to you?

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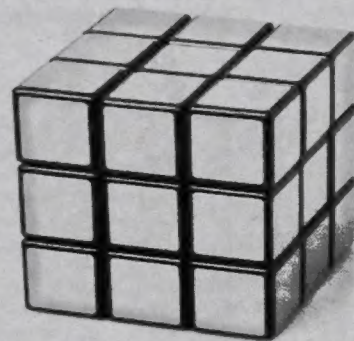
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Haliburton's FROST FESTIVAL 2009

Haliburton celebrated in a huge way on the Family Day weekend - February 13th - 15th. It was the 1st Annual Frost Festival and the weather was on our side. On these pages you can see that a fun time was had by everyone who came out to Head Lake Park and other venues. Directly below is Paul Espie who was crowned Frost Festival Ambassador. Paul Espie was a part of all the events, which included a fun and thrilling toboggan run, ice sculptures, snow painting, ice skating, ice bowling with jugs, pony rides, dog sled rides, horse wagon rides and a bonfire to keep warm. Beavertails were a favourite treat at the Rails End snack bar. Over half of the 2,000 beavertails were sold by mid-day on Saturday.

Photos by Lyn Winans
Mark Arike and Terrance Gavan



There was many ways to make your way down the ice slide!!



The ice slide was a favourite by many.



Paul Espie - Ambassador



Head Lake was filled with ice skaters.



Petting one of the frozen dogs carved by Mike Muli.



P.C. leader John Tory dropped in to take a ride on his campaign sign at the ice slide on Sunday.



Snowsculpting and painting was a great event for the kids.



Countless beaver tails were sold throughout the weekend - seen here being served by Councillor Janis Parker.



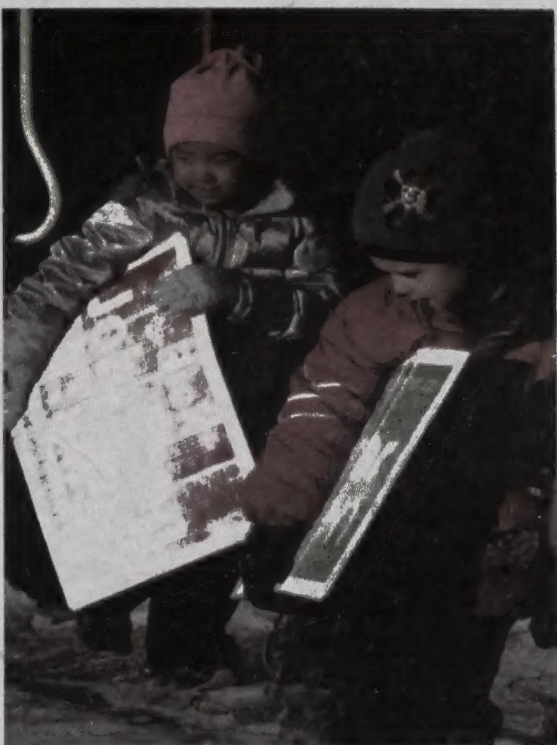
More bowling / curling fun.



Pony Rides were part of the fun.



Political signs made for great toboggans.



Mush was the word for the Dog Sled Riders.



Mike Muli did an awesome ice sculpture

Haliburton's FROST FESTIVAL 2009



Blues at the Delta

Juno-Award Winner Jack de Keyser Jamis at the Delta Pinestone Resort



The drinks were flowing, dancing shoes were on and the mood was electric for the one of the most successful 'Blues at the Delta' shows to date.

Held in the Highland Grand Ballroom at the Delta Pinestone Resort on Saturday of the Family Day Weekend, nearly 200 people made their way to the sold-out show that featured Canadian blues artist Jack de Keyser. Opening up for de Keyser was finger-style guitarist Rick Fines.

Organized by Kashaga Productions, the Blues at the Delta concert series first began in May with the legendary Downchild Blues Band.

A portion of proceeds collected from Saturday night are being donated to Cottage Dreams, a local charitable organization.



Curling met bowling on Head Lake as kids took aim at pop bottles with jugs full of sand.



Wagon Rides provided fun for all ages

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter



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Minden Merchants Association Get Their Man Dominion Hotel Owner Set To Become Business Face Of Community

George Farrell

Staff Reporter

At a meeting on August 28th of 2008 the Minden Community Business Association (MCBA) was formed. It was formed so that the merchants and business owners of downtown Minden and the surrounding area could work hand in hand with the Municipality to the benefit of both.

At the same meeting between Minden area merchants and members of Council, it was recommended that an interim committee be formed

to work with the Township in preparing a by-law to establish a Board of Management for the MCBA. And so it was that an interim committee was formed, consisting of Minden area business owners and merchants, and a representative member of Council. Once the by-law had been completed, the thinking went, a public meeting would be held, and once the by-law wording was accepted by the majority of business owners, it would be forwarded to Council for their consideration. But the by-law was never prepared and never submitted to Council. So what happened?

Council has stressed repeatedly that the initiative in the formation of any merchant's association had to come from the business community itself. That nothing significant came from the business owners and merchants, following the meeting is due mainly to the fact that no one has stepped forward to 'grab the bulls by the horns' and lead the business community forward. Minden area residents and the business community specifically, were waiting for a champion. Well, now the wait would appear to be over.

Shawn Chamberlin is a smart businessman. He sees the value in investing in the community where his business is located. It's taken a while for Shawn to establish his two downtown Minden establishments to the point where he can now devote some time to become the much-needed champion the merchants association has been looking for.

Shawn has been heavily involved in the resurrection of downtown Minden for about five years. In 2004 he purchased property on the edge of the Gull River that he turned into the fine dining establishment Grill on the Gull. Shortly thereafter he purchased the venerable Dominion Hotel, and in so doing quickly became one of downtown Minden's biggest investors.

"I've been coming up to this area since the mid 70's," said Shawn, a Hamilton Ontario native. "I'd come up to visit my folks who lived for a while in Haliburton village. Then from 1977 on we'd come up to visit the in-laws at their cottage. We bought our own cottage on Koshlong in 1981."

Shawn still maintains a residence in Hamilton along with wife Elli and their two sons, Jessie (16) and Clark (18), who are still in school. Shawn and Elli will soon be celebrating their 29th wedding anniversary and Shawn is quick to give Elli credit for a lot of behind-the-scenes work on his two Minden locations. "She does a lot of the paperwork and bookkeeping, and is heavily involved in all facets of design. What's the expression? 'Behind every successful man there's a strong woman.' That's Elli."

Since he's been a Minden property owner, Shawn has seen a lot of good things develop locally. "Things seem to be really turning around in town," he says. "Investments are being made and people are recognizing assets. Minden's assets are our location on the beautiful Gull River with lots of room to grow. We have a very active arts community and a solid base of progressive thinkers. We have the Cultural Centre, art galleries, a new library, the R.D. Lawrence Place, the Riverwalk, the renovations to the Beaver Theatre, improved store facades, the beautiful banners, and the flowers provided by the horticultural society. If I had to sit in a closet and write down what I wanted in a town, it would be Minden."

What's been lacking though is a unified business voice. Shawn Chamberlin wants to do something about that.

"There's been a lot of work the last few years to try and bring

the business community together as a group. We recognize that there is a need for merchants to speak with one cohesive voice for economic development and long term viability. Clearly there are issues we need to address. We need to have representation with policy. We need our

issues heard. There is special funding available on the Provincial and Municipal level for groups who are organized, but we don't have access until we're organized. There's a legacy involving recent research, surveys and meetings of the business community, and a comprehensive document was produced. It would be a shame not to leverage that, and we need closure on it. Our opportunity is to build a brand, and we

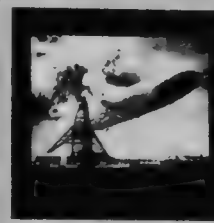
need to build a brand. When we're in Lindsay, and we say "we're from Minden," what do people say in response? Right now it's not negative, but they likely don't know what we have here. We need to let people know both within and outside the county, what we have to offer, and we need to promote ourselves as a destination for tourism."

"We need to let people know that we have great studio tours, the best Canada Day celebrations, culture, about a dozen good restaurants. We need to promote our special events and establish complementary events for ongoing functions like Canada Day. Maybe we have a special sales day to go along with it, for instance. Businesses need to be more participatory in discussions of such events. Right now council is standing alone and getting little support."

Shawn Chamberlin recalls how he was recruited to spearhead the latest merchant's movement. "I was guilted and cajoled by several business people and by Rick Cox, Director of Community Services," he explains, chuckling. "Seriously though, I have a huge investment in the town and I recognized that somebody needs to pony up, so it may as well be me. We've got to get things going."

"The first thing we need to do is rally the troops," Shawn says, referring to an early March date for the next meeting. We need to ratify the document and form a legal entity for our group and make sure that the majority are on board. We need to encase that in the required legislation in order to incorporate, and be able to deal with the township. Once we have the group and bylaws in place it will allow us to present a budget, which will formerly identify and fund our strategy. We need to build a couple of key strategies and build small. If you want to eat an elephant you eat it a bit at a time.

"The word's just getting out," he says, "but we've had very positive feedback, and I'm very optimistic." ■



Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

On Feb. 23, 1997, "Schindler's List" is shown on NBC, the first network to broadcast a movie without commercial interruption. Ford Motor Company, which sponsored the broadcast, showed one commercial before and after the film. The black-and-white 1993 film won Steven Spielberg his first Academy Award as Best Director.

On Feb. 24, 1982, Wayne Gretzky scores his 77th goal, breaking a record held by Phil Esposito of 76 goals in a single season. When Gretzky retired in 1999 after 20 seasons in the NHL, he was widely considered the greatest player in the history of hockey.

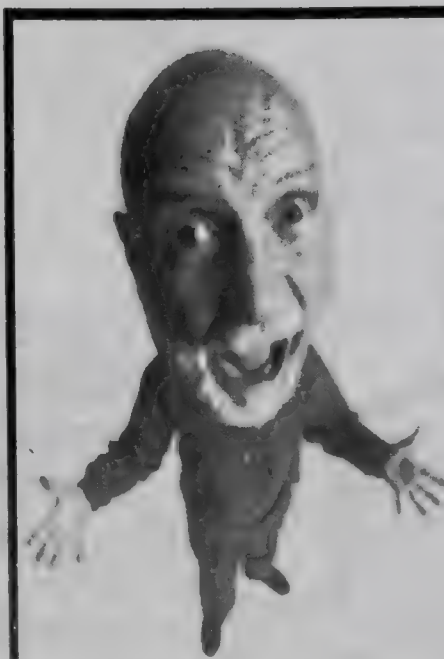
On Feb. 25, 1964, 22-year-old Cassius Clay shocks the odds-makers by dethroning world heavyweight boxing champion Sonny Liston in a seventh-round technical knockout. Two days later, after meeting with Malcolm X, Clay announced he was joining the Nation of Islam. He later took the Muslim name of Muhammad Ali.

On Feb. 26, 1919, the Grand Canyon national park is established. The chasm drops more than a mile into the earth, and is 15 miles across at its widest point. American geologist John Wesley Powell, who popularized the term "Grand Canyon" in the 1870s, became the first person to journey the entire length of the gorge in 1869.

On Feb. 27, 1936, Shirley Temple receives a new contract from 20th Century Fox that will pay the 7-year-old star \$50,000 a film. Her famous blond ringlets appeared in more than 40 films, including "Bright Eyes," "Curley Top," "Wee Willie Winkie," "Heidi" and "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm."

On Feb. 28, 1975, a subway crash in London kills 43 people. The driver of the train apparently made no effort to brake as the train headed toward a dead-end brick wall, leading some to speculate that the crash was a suicide. Following this disaster, the London Underground installed an automatic braking system in end-of-the-line locations.

On March 1, 1941, Nashville radio station W47NV begins transmitting. The station was the first in the country to receive a license for FM radio transmission. The station started its FM broadcast with a commercial for Nashville's Standard Candy Company.



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Love and Care Goes into Makeup of Quilt

Minden Sparks and Brownies Make a Meaningful Donation to the YWCA

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter

With hammers, plastic and flower petals, Minden Sparks and Brownies have used creativity and care to help create a quilt that will soon comfort women and children seeking refuge from abuse.

On Thursday, Feb 12, girl guides and their leaders came to the Minden Arena to present their work to a representative from the YWCA Women's Centre in Minden.

Since November, under the guidance of local quilters Jean May and Dale Jewitt, the group had a hands-on experience making the quilt they affectionately named "Warm Hugs". Guides who worked on the quilt range in age from five to nine years old.

On the quilt that features Sparks and Brownies colours (pink and orange), each child was able to express their artistic sides on one of the 28 squares. First they dipped their hands into paint, placing a palm print onto the quilt. Then they took a piece of plastic, placed it over the flower petals and hammered away to extract bright shades of lavender, green and yellow.

Paula Pepping of the YWCA came to the arena to accept the donation that will go to the local safe house - a place and safe haven for women and children in crisis or transition.

Pepping explained to the guides how significant their contribution is and how greatly it's appreciated.

"There are a lot of families where the mommy is being bullied and it can get nasty and dangerous," she said. "At the safe place they'll be able to snuggle up with this blanket and watch TV or read a book. This is really special because you all worked on it."

For more information about the services that the YWCA provides visit their web site at www.ywca-canada.ca.



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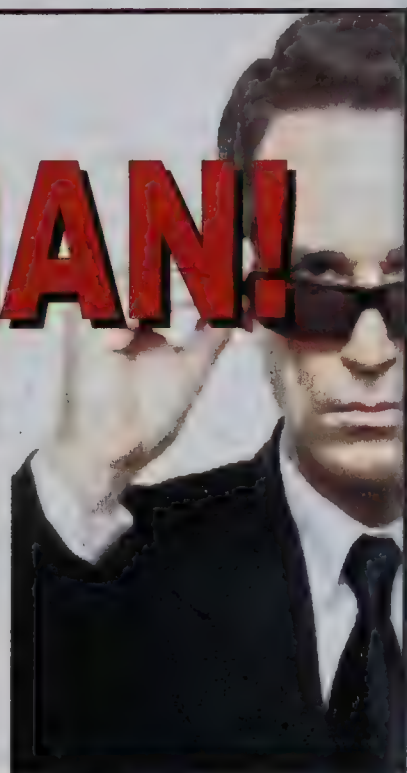
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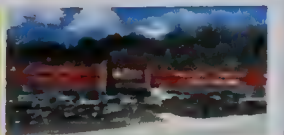


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Slow Pitch Facing the Hard Ball

Lob Ball Fees Pop Up in Minden

Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

If you want to play ball in Minden this year, it's going to cost you. The municipal by-law that sets fees for services and facility rentals is under review, and some fees, particularly for use of the ball diamonds, could cost users more than four times the existing rates. Right now, the league is looking at a 440 percent increase in fees.

Just when the town is abuzz about hefty municipal tax increases, residents will also be hit with increased fees to use municipal facilities and some people aren't happy about it. Lawrence Loughheed, who organizes the Minden Mixed Lob Ball League, says that last summer they rented the municipal diamonds for \$900, but much to his chagrin, he's been advised that costs could increase to as much as \$4000 this summer.

Loughheed says, "I don't think anyone can justify a 440 percent increase in rates." According to Loughheed, the increase is due to bad planning.

He said, "We've been asking for an increase in rent for some time, but thought that the price should increase incrementally. We've asked several times if the municipality would like the league to pay more, but have been advised there was no need."

Loughheed said that during discussions about the rates Rick Cox, Director of Community Services and Recreation Supervisor, had suggested trying to attract more tournaments in the area thereby increasing revenues to help support the ball diamonds. Loughheed, frustrated with the letter advising him of the rate increase, said that there are maintenance problems with the ball diamonds, including seasonal readiness, broken home plates, and problems with the backstop, the dugout, fencing, washroom facilities and lighting.

According to Loughheed, when the municipality discovered that the cost to repair the lights would be as much as \$15,000, the work was not done. He also suggested that there are health and safety issues that need to be resolved.

Loughheed said, "There's been no money spent on the diamonds at all. Work has been put off and it's been very frustrating for the league." He said that there must be some contingency funds somewhere as the department has spent over \$70,000 on a dressing room for the arena. Loughheed has an added concern that the increased rates for the ball diamonds may be used to recover the over-expenditure on the dressing room.

Loughheed perceived the notification of the increase to the league to be an extremely cold approach. He said, "They could have picked up the phone and talked this over."

Cox confirmed that a fee increase is being proposed and that they will take effect this year.

When asked why the municipality is considering such a huge increase, Cox agreed that it was quite a jump, but he also said that the present rates don't come close to recovering the municipality's costs. "We're not going to get full cost recovery no matter

what we do and we've looked at everything we could do that wouldn't make the situation impossible for the league. We simply can't raise the fees that high or they would laugh us out of the park," said Cox.

"Up until now for \$900 we're providing three ball diamonds, two of them with lighting, all mowed, dragged and lined for two nights a week during the season plus the year-end tournament. When we did the math that works out to about \$20.00 a night," said Cox. He went on to say that with three hundred players in the league, it worked out to \$3.00 per player for the entire summer.

"We're offering two options. The first is \$2,000 for the season. That's about \$40.00 a night and might cover the cost of hydro which was in excess of \$3500 last year. That option is a bit of a trade off where the league would be expected to take care of the lines themselves but

the cost to the players would still only be \$6.00 per player for the season which doesn't seem like too much of an outrageous request."

Recognizing that the league may not want this responsibility, the other option Cox is recommending is \$4,000 for the season with the Municipality assuming all responsibility for maintaining the diamonds. According to Cox that price would still be quite fair and even underpriced compared to what is paid in other jurisdictions, and will still not be full cost recovery for the municipality. "Even at \$4,000 for the season the cost to players would only be \$12.00 each," he said.

But Loughheed doesn't buy this argument. He says it isn't the municipality's concern how many players the league has. "At any given time our numbers could go down dramatically. If I only had six people playing, it's my bet there wouldn't be a discount." According to Loughheed, basing the rental fees on the number of players is a flawed approach.

Cox said that last year the municipality invested thousands of dollars on lighting for the ball diamonds and this year they have budgeted for repairs to the backstop.

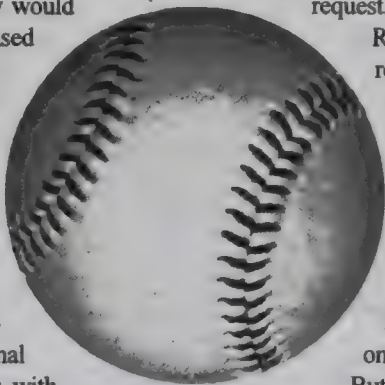
He said, "It's great that there is that kind of program in the community, but under our existing system, it just won't be sustainable for the summer. Up to now, the league has been receiving extreme value for their fee, and we simply can't continue on that basis."

When asked if the municipality had some flexibility, Cox said, "We're prepared to work with the league to see what can be done. There may be other ways that we can support them or opportunities for them to generate revenue."

The comprehensive Tariff of Fees By-law that details the costs for programs and services for all departments was presented to Council in draft form on February 12th. There will be a public meeting on February 26th at 9:00 a.m. in the Council chambers for the public to comment. ■

"I don't think anyone can justify a 440 percent increase in rates."

(Lawrence Loughheed)



Chili Cookoff

Returning Champs Win Again; The County Voice Finishes a Close Second to Minden Restaurant



Things really heated up at Minden's Winterfest during the second annual Chili Cook-off held this past Sunday. Hundreds made their way to the event that received international exposure the day before on CBC Radio when Rick Cox, Director of Community Services for the Township of Minden Hills was interviewed on-air.

After tasting the chili, people voted for their favourite recipe. Though no prizes were awarded, this event was more about bragging rights than anything else.

The top three finishers included: 1st - Gramma's Fish & Chips (29 votes), 2nd - The County Voice (27 votes), 3rd - The Dominion Hotel (22 votes).

Other participants were: the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, Canoe FM, Autumn Marketing, Grill On the Gull, Rockcliffe Tavern, PC Leader John Tory, Rotary Club of Minden, the Minden Times and Iron Jive & Barb Reid. ■

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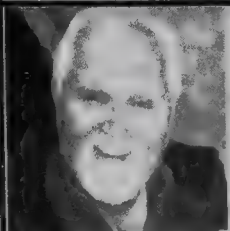
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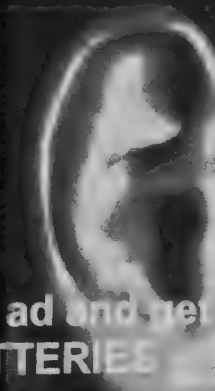
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MINDEN WINTER fest



The Politicians attended the Minden Chili Festival: Left is P.C. candidate John Tory who had a chili entry, Middle is Liberal Candidate Rick Johnson with his wife Terri who served up ice cream and far right is Green Party candidate Mike Schreiner, getting chili from the Voice booth...



Three cheers for Minden's Winterfest.



Many enjoyed a delicious pancake breakfast on Family Day in Minden



Hay rides were part of the fun on Family Day in Minden



The chili fest was well attended on Sunday



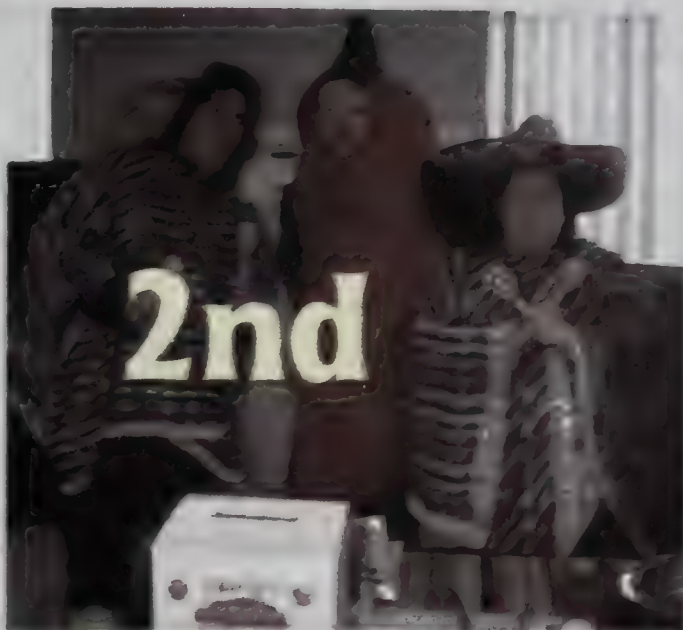
The Voice's own Brett Irvine and Mark Arike entertained the masses!!



The Great Chili Cookoff - 2009



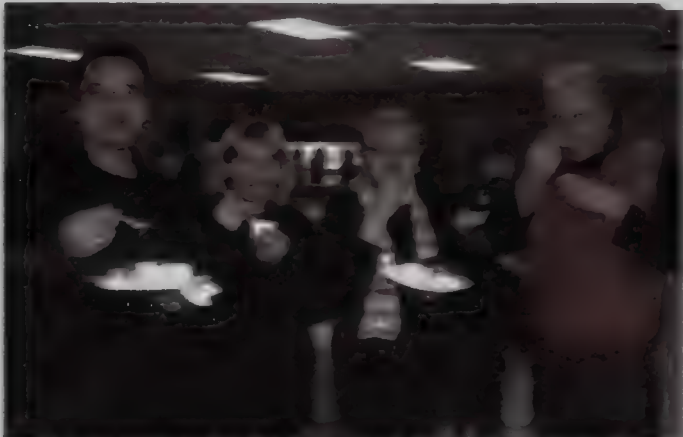
Grandma's Fish & Chips (29 votes)



The County Voice (27 votes)



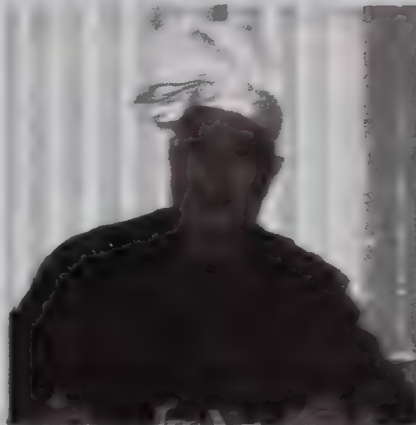
Dominion Hotel (22 votes)



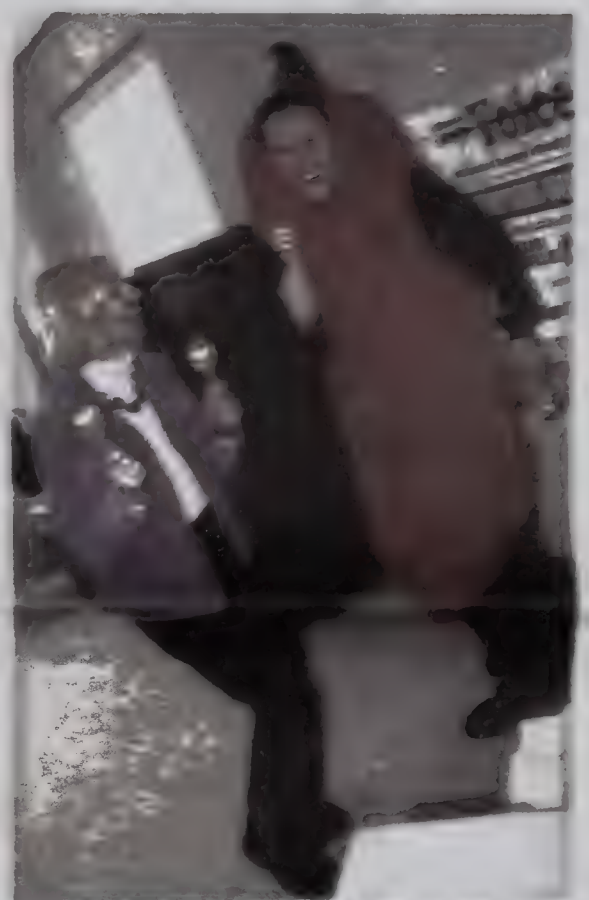
Chili tasting was enjoyed by the hundreds of people who attended.

Chili Photos
By Shawn
Welsh

Winterfest
Photos by
Lyn
Winans



The Lion's Club had maple syrup chili.



Laura Scott rode with the Viceroy's dinner chili.



Grill on the Gull chili.



The silly chilies set up a 4th place winning chili.



Thomas is for green chili



Chili Competitors - 2009

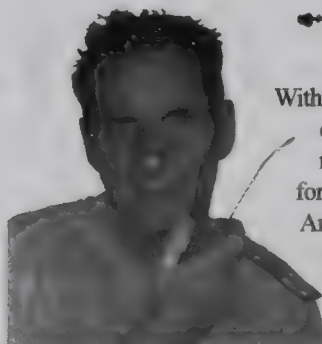


Asterisks in the Hall of Fame? A Fraud is A-Rod

History Should Remain as Official Arbiter of an Era

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor



With the Alex Rodriguez admission of duplicity regarding his use of steroids comes a belated demand for redress of an era.

An era that seems to line up increasingly in favor of Jose Canseco's rabid anecdotal steroid prognostications and against the gentler, kinder, vaguely naïve, and more muzzled form-en-

hancing meanders and ruminations of baseball's hardball, hard-nut commissioner Bud Selig.

Canseco wrote once that 60 to 80 percent of ballplayers in the late eighties, nineties and beyond were motoring around the base paths juiced, cleared, or needled.

Canseco was tarred, feathered, and pilloried for his then outlandish output. Many sportswriters, broadcasters, owners, and a broad swath of the lumpen baseball proletariat felt that Canseco had taken too many pop-ups to the melon. Or that he was ingratiating himself to the loopy conspiracy theorists in some Oliver Stone-like claw for a prodigious publishing payday and a large advance on his next book.

This latest admission of steroid use by A-Rod, once thought to be the poster boy for Selig's less jaded version of events, comprises a blunt force fungo bat blow to baseball that enhances the demarcation of what has come to be known in the modern baseball lexicon as "the steroid era."

This all coming on the heels of a very convincing interview A-Rod did with heralded CBS baseball insider and analyst Katie Couric a short while back. Look, I love Katie, but for gosh sakes, if we want to prod and poke a grumbling and mumbling baseball bear, let's get someone who knows what the heck they're asking and why. Someone who possesses at least a modicum of baseball bona fides, and someone schooled in the art of the quick-quip and jive.

Where's Howard Cosell when you need him?

A-Rod lied in that interview with Couric, everyone's favorite white bread, lob-ball chucking media darling, and there's very little he could say right now that would promulgate a belief that he's telling the truth now. The admission conveniently covers only three years of his career. And it eschews any damning admission of performance enhancing in the period after steroid use was specifically banned by major league baseball - and the dulcetly duplicit Selig - in 2004.

Sorry A-Rod, but the mea culpa looks a little too natty, neat, nifty and nimble. As in, "Rod be nimble, Rod be quick; Rod beat those newsmen away with slick shtick."

A-Rod, like a lot of similarly disenfranchised switch hitters, is now playing for a stake in baseball's greener field: Enshrinement in the Hall of Fame. Cooperstown is calling. But the walls surrounding that halcyon stage and green, green grass of home are crumbling under the weight of a looming asterisk.

Sportswriters who vote yearly on Hall of Fame nominees are seriously advocating adding an asterisk to the whole era. An era where Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa and then Barry Bonds were credited with renewing the fan base after a debilitating lockout and strike in 1994-95. They brought people back to the parks and the corporate boxes because of their unique penchant for ripping cover from ball.

In the same time frame, Roger Clemens asserted himself as one of the greatest pitchers of all time. Prodigious hitting, super-human pitching, and maturing veterans playing quixotic games, tilting at separate windmills of time and age. Getting better like Bordeaux wine in weather-beaten oak casks.

Someone should have asked the right questions back then. Facts remain. Arms break, old hitters slump, numbers go down with age. Dorian Gray had that weathered portrait in the attic. Baseball had the roids, the bulls, the junk, the gear, and the clear. Sportswriters, owners, and the execs never thought to traipse up to the cobwebbed old garret to investigate why shirt sizes, necks, bat speed and deliveries rose so exponentially. Why the old guys were suddenly flourishing in their declining years. The curious case of Benjamin Button hit baseball long before Brad Pitt put us all to sleep this year in a Multiplex.

Nothing much is new here. Baseball's list of cheaters is long and legend. Gaylord Perry juiced the ball. Legions of hitters corked their bats. When hitting percentages dropped, baseball lowered the mounds. When pitching suffered, baseball raised the mounds. The ball was wound tighter when baseball realized the fan power of the parked pitch. Teams regularly moved outfields in or out to accommodate team strengths.

Ty Cobb was a racist. Drug abuse of the recreational kind was rampant in the sixties, seventies and eighties. Pete Rose lied, Whitey Ford regularly nicked, scuffed, spat and shined balls to bend them to his will from his hill on the infield. Batboys and third base coaches steal signs. Amphetamines or greenies, blues and uppers were once dispensed like Pez in major league locker rooms.

Sportswriters are saying that we should mark this era with an asterisk. Let McGwire and Sosa and Clemens and Bonds into Cooperstown, but mark their passage with that lovely little stigmatizer, the lowly asterisk.

Webster's defines it as: "the character (*) used in printing or writing as a reference mark, as an indication of the omission of letters or words, to denote a hypothetical or unattested linguistic form, or for various arbitrary meanings."

Talk now turns to the condemnation of an era through an all-encompassing use of that little slice of delicious and delectable punctuation. An arbitrary catchall.

The asterisk.

Funny little jumped up starburst. In saying so little, it says so much. Let it go people.

Or put an asterisk on baseball's apartheid era. That lovely little gentlemen's dance that preceded Jackie Robinson's smashing dalliance with baseball's Jim Crow hierarchy.

Put an asterisk on Ruth who never had to hit against black hurlers like Satchell Paige or Smoky Joe Williams. And add another because Ruth never had to be compared with that legendary long ball hitter, slamin' Josh Gibson, who was credited with a not quite apocryphal 600-foot exit of ball from the old Yankee Stadium and who caught for the Pittsburgh Crawfords and Homestead Grays from 1927 to 1946. Gibson's own induction to Cooperstown in 1972 accompanied by the all-purpose asterisk, if not literally then figuratively, on a colorless panoply of injustice. Gibson, labeled with that lumbering nickname, the "Brown Bambino," a hunkered homage to Babe Ruth, which belies Gibson's own prodigious accomplishments.

Buck Leonard, regarded as the greatest first baseman in the history of the Negro leagues, was known as "the black Lou Gehrig."

But that was not exactly the way the Hall of Famer and onetime Negro leagues star Monte Irvin saw it. "Buck Leonard was the equal of any first baseman who ever lived," Irvin once said. "If he'd gotten the chance to play in the major leagues, they might have called Lou Gehrig the white Buck Leonard."

Leonard was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1971.

But Buck never got to play in the major leagues. He was of an age that precluded playing when Jackie and Brooklyn Dodgers GM Branch Rickey brought down the color barrier.

Who knows? With some HGH and an ample sampling of the gear and the clear, Buck Leonard might have had a few seasons in the sun, playing with Jackie at Ebbett's Field, hitting scuffed spitters, with stolen signs, over a short porch down the line and out, into the clear blue sky over Brooklyn.

And the Hall of Fame? It's too late for the due diligence that should have been done a decade hence when Dorian put the painting in the loft.

Let 'em all in I say. Pete Rose too.

Save the asterisks for the historians. Let the chips from the corked bats fall ... where they may. ■



Josh Gibson

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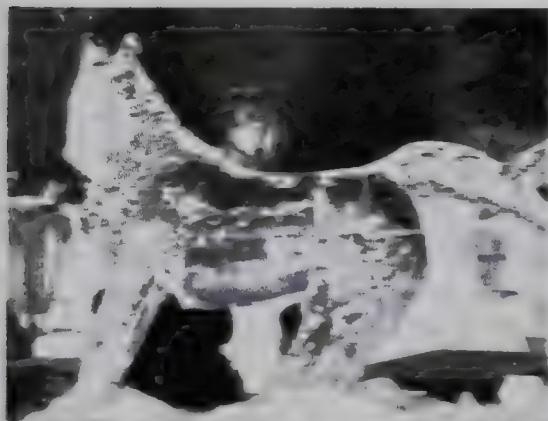
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Ice Art in Haliburton



Ice carver Mike Madi drew plenty of attention to the Frost Festival while spending Friday and Saturday to create a team of eight dogs, a sled and musher out of blocks of ice near the Rails End Gallery. Other carvers also made pieces by businesses on Highland St. which included a mermaid and an eagle.



Photos by Terrance Gannon and Mark Arke

High School Roundup

Compiled by Mr. Paul's Class

Kawartha Snowboarding

The Hal High snowboarders had great success with Alex Muenzel finishing at the top female competitor. Other places are as follows: Christyanna Walker - 2nd, Ariah Berts - 4th, Adrianna Ellis - 7th, and Holly Wu - 8th. Brett Hicks took 2nd place for the guys, along with Jeff Fennell - 3rd, Madison Rallis 4th, and Alex Vaseos - 6th.

Senior Basketball

At the Kawartha Wildcard Tournament, the Senior Boys Basketball team fell by 9 points to St Thomas Aquinas, despite Luke Watson's 12 points and J.L. Fryborn's 9 points.

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Mark Arke
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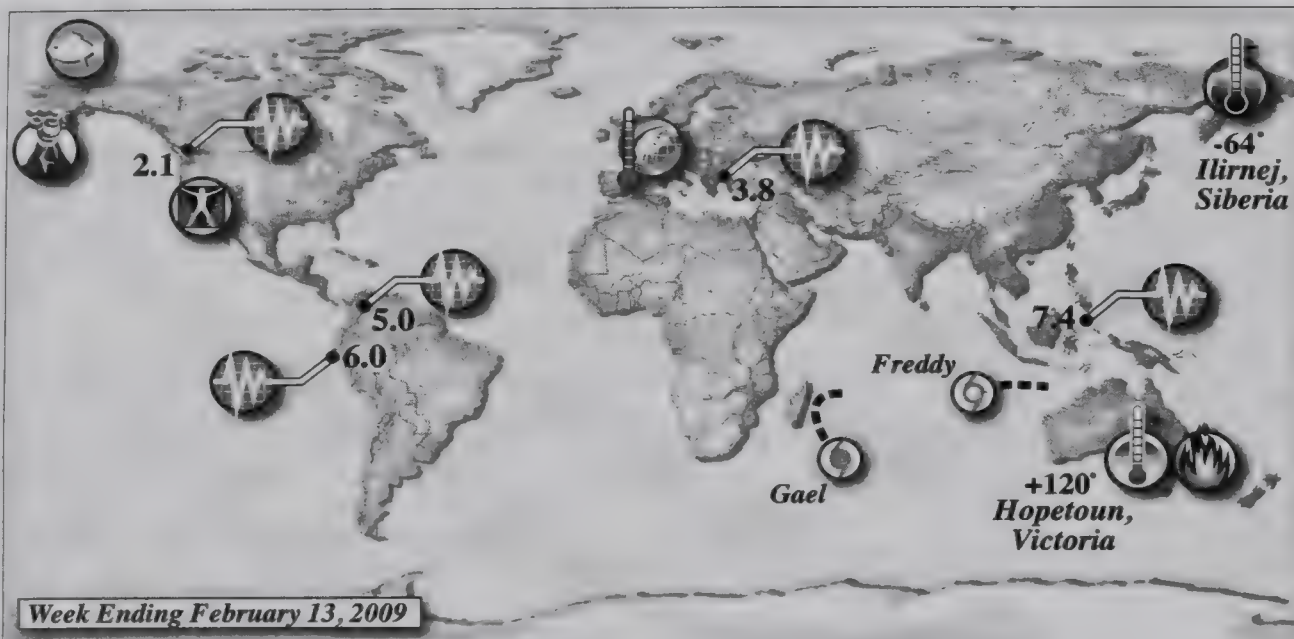
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Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newmar



'Cooling' Confusion

Many climate change skeptics point to the current extreme cold and wintry weather in Europe, and earlier Arctic blasts in North America, as proof that there is no global warming. But climate experts have long predicted that wide swings in heat and cold, as well as drought and flood, will become more and more frequent worldwide as the average global temperature warms due to greenhouse gases. NASA's Goddard Institute has processed the weather observations for 2008 and found it was the ninth warmest on record, despite seeming to have been much cooler than any in the recent string of record hot years. That pause in our warming climate last year prompted some to proclaim that it was proof that global warming doesn't exist. But NASA points to the La Niña ocean cooling in the Pacific as the primary cause of 2008's and early 2009's brief global cooling.

Redoubt Rumblings

Southern Alaska's Mount Redoubt volcano rumbled into a third week, emitting steam and gasses that indicated the presence of fresh magma beneath the mountain. Seismologists believe Redoubt's more frequent tremors could be the result of rock breaking underground due to mounting pressure from the new magma.

Earthquakes

Northern Indonesia was jolted by a powerful 7.4 magnitude temblor that injured at least 17 people and wrecked dozens of buildings on Sulawesi and Talaud.

• Earth movements were also felt in northern Peru, northern Colombia, Bulgaria and metropolitan Vancouver, B.C.

Firestorm Calamity

Fatalities from Australia's deadliest bushfires are likely to exceed 200 in the wake of firestorms that razed entire towns and burned alive many fleeing residents who became trapped inside their vehicles. More than 5,000 residents in the southeastern state of Victoria have been left homeless, with many forced to stay in community centers, schools and places of worship. Some survivors described huge clouds of falling embers from the advancing blazes as "hell raining from the sky," setting their homes on fire within seconds. Among the human tragedy, millions of wild animals also perished in the conflagration. "Kangaroos, wallabies, all the animals that live in the trees — the possums, koalas — just gone. It's been a terrible, terrible thing for wildlife, total devastation," Wildlife Protection Association of Australia president Pat O'Brien told reporters.

Arctic Fishing Ban

Fishing fleets that may have been casting an envious eye on newly opened Arctic waters that melted during the record heat of recent summers are likely to be barred from the portion under U.S. jurisdiction by a ban approved by federal fisheries managers. In a unanimous vote, the North Pacific Management Council ruled that better understanding of how global warming is affecting the region needs to be achieved before exploitation of such species as Arctic cod, saffron cod and snow crab should be allowed. The recommendation must ultimately be approved by the incoming U.S. commerce secretary. The hostile Arctic environment has prevented fishing trawlers from reaching the remote region in the past, and a host of advocacy

groups convinced the council to keep them out until it can be assured that the fisheries can sustain commercial fishing.

Tropical Cyclones

Cyclone Gael churned through the western Indian Ocean for the second consecutive week, reaching Category 4 force while passing between Reunion and Madagascar. While locally heavy rain and gusty winds buffeted both islands, as well as nearby Mauritius, the strongest winds near Gael's center remained well offshore.

• Cyclone Freddy formed on the north side of the Indian Ocean, of northwestern Australia.

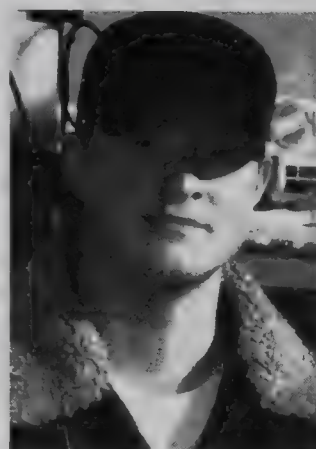
Homo Evolutis

Humanity's newfound ability to manipulate DNA, regenerate tissue and augment our abilities through robotics is putting us on the edge of becoming a new species according to a leading researcher in the political impacts of life sciences. Speaking at the TED 2009 conference on technology, entertainment and design in Long Beach, Calif. Juan Enriquez dubbed the next stage in humankind's evolution *homo evolutis*. He told the gathering that while some modifications of the human body in this evolution will be made after birth, our ability to create changes with DNA and biology may allow us to take some of the best aspects of the animal kingdom and make them our own. Enriquez said that the evolution is not likely to be deliberate and steady, but rather "a even faster accumulation of small useful improvements that eventually turn homo sapiens into a new hominid."

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Have Your Say...
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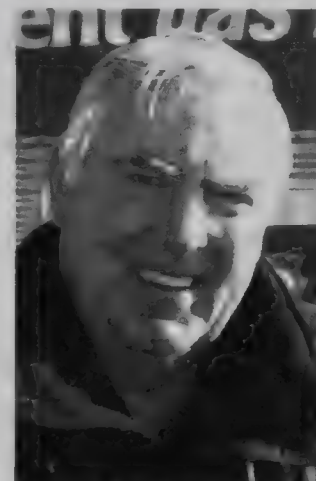
We asked people in Haliburton, "How did you spend your Family Day Weekend? Do you feel that the month of February is a good time for this special holiday?"



Andrew Brown, Haliburton — "My wife and I drove down to see her family in Aylmer, Ontario. We don't get to see them often so we just hung out with them. It's an all right time. The roads are kind of sketchy and things are going a little slower, but it's a good time of month."



Ron Clark, Camarvon — "I spent both days singing with the Highlands Male Chorus. It was good. I went out for dinner with the choir on Sunday night in Camarvon. It's a good time for a holiday because we're half way in between Christmas and spring coming in."



Harry Winder, Haliburton — "I spent my weekend sitting beside the fireplace, reading a book, looking out at the cold. I would have been snowmobiling, but there wasn't much snow. For Valentine's Day we had 20 people over for Chinese food dinner which we had at the cottage. Usually February is a good time for snowmobiling, but you can't count on the weather these days for anything."



Wilma Thomson, Haliburton — "I partly spent it with family. I was in Peterborough on Saturday and had a look around in Haliburton on Sunday. It was great to see so many people around at the Frost Fest. On Monday I caught up with friends and family on the phone. I'm retired but I can remember when I worked how long of a wait it was between long weekends."

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River Kings Loss to Lakers a Learning Experience

Kings Regular Season Sliding to Playoffs

Jonathan Dew may be the best player in the Greater Metro Hockey League (GMHL). That's not news to anyone who was at the Minden Arena last Sunday night as part of a holiday weekend free admission tilt between the Innisfil Lakers and the Minden River Kings.

Dew scored four goals and added an assist in a 6-0 Innisfil Lakers win over the Kings.

Dew has amassed an amazing 35 goals and 28 assist in just 19 games with the Southern Conference leading Lakers this season.

Dew won the Marshall Uretsky award last season for Most Valuable player in the GMHL. He returned to the Lakers recently after a stint in the Ontario Junior A ranks with Seguin. The Lakers needless to say are pretty happy to have him back in the fold.

The Lakers are superbly coached and a treat to watch, playing a solid two-way, headman, and free-wheeling style. Lovely to behold, unless of course you happened to be a devout and devoted Minden fan in attendance at the game last Sunday.

The game set an attendance mark for the season with roughly 200 fans lining both sides of the SG Nesbitt complex. Team management is hoping that Minden can take the fan momentum into the playoffs which begin next week against the Elliot Lake Bobcats.

The Kings played a game against North Division leaders South Muskoka Shield last Tuesday (Results too late for deadline) and will finish their regular season with a tilt against Toronto at SG Nesbitt Barn at 6 pm Sunday.

The River Kings are hoping to find some solace this week following that tough loss to the Lakers on Sunday.

The outcome of that game was never in doubt, and Minden coach Brooks Robinson said that the Kings struggled from the outset. The one bright spot was goaltender Andrew Selbie, who well and truly kept the Kings in the game and within earshot in the opening period especially. Selbie faced close to 20 Laker shots in the first period alone. The Kings only managed one shot in the period despite a number of power play opportunities. They killed some penalties of their own, due in the main to Selbie's unstinting efforts in that opening period.

Robinson could only shake his head after the game, and gave kudos to both the Laker team and their coach.

"They played great didn't they?" said Robinson. He added that he has a lot of respect for his opposite number on the Laker bench Shane Hicke, who comes to the GMHL with a pretty impressive pedigree. Hicke is the son of former LA Kings player Ernie Hicke and the nephew of former Habs great Bill Hicke.

Robinson gives full marks to Hicke and his system.

"That's the kind of team we're aiming for here," smiled Robinson. "Shane is probably the best coach in this league right now and he runs a great program, and we'd like to follow that lead."

Robinson was also quick to give full props to the Lakers' resurgent prodigy. "Dew, well what can you say about that guy," smile Robinson. "He's the best player in the league."

Indeed, Dew scored a natural hat-trick in the first period, including two shorthanded markers. The Lakers took a 3-0 lead in the first and led 5-0 after two.

Dew's line mate Caleb Lister scored on a power play in the second assisted by Dew. Dew notched his fourth goal in the closing minute of the second frame. Alex Kulikouskiy scored the lone marker of the third period.

Laker coach Shane Hicke has built a winning team around scoring phenoms Dew, Lister, Douglas Maxwell, and Connor Hendry, but he attributes the team's overall success to a selfless attitude and a willingness to go out every night and play hard on both ends of the ice.

"Right now we're focused on the playoffs and it just happens that we lost to King Wild last night, so we came out here with something to prove," said Hicke. The team arrived in Minden a full two hours prior to game time and Hicke said that a great deal of that time was spent on focusing on the task at hand.

Hicke said that scoring is just one facet of their game. The rest and probably most important part of the game plan includes that stifling fore-checking, pressure-first mindset. "We're a defensive team and all our guys are talented hockey players," said Hicke. "We create our offense from the defense."

Again, that was evident last Sunday as time after time they challenged Minden's blue-liners and time after time they came up with the puck.

Robinson concurred on all points. "They play aggressive hockey and we found that out tonight," said Robinson. "Our guys just aren't there yet, but we played well in the third, and we can take that away from the game tonight."

The Kings have fifth place in the Northern Division sewn up and they will be facing second place Elliot Lake as playoffs kick into gear next week. ■

Red Hawks Host Sudden Death Quarterfinal at Dysart Arena

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

A Win Over Campbellford Seals Second Place for Hal High

Things are tightening up in the Kawartha high school hockey league. Of course, the season is winding to denouement and that's the way things are supposed to shake down.

Teams play a regular season and they hope to peak as they move into the playoffs.

That's the plan anyway.

The Haliburton High Red Hawks wrapped up their season on a winning note last Thursday with a 3-2 win on the road against Campbellford.

Scott Griffith scored twice in the contest and Drew Paul scored the other goal.

That puts their season tout at 6-2-1, good enough for a second place finish behind vaunted rivals, Peterborough's Holy Cross Crusaders.

Coach Ron Yake was allowed to breathe a huge sigh of relief

after last Wednesday's game. The second place finish means that the Hawks will be taking on the seventh place team in a sudden death tilt that gets underway today (Thursday Feb 19) at Dysart Emporium at 2 pm.

Yake is quite aware that every team in this league is capable of nailing a one-off victory in the nerve-jangling sudden-death format.

"Any of the teams in this league can beat any team on a given day," said Yake. The Red Hawks are hoping to bring the momentum of a solid performance against Campbellford to the fore in that all-important do-or-die clash.

As it turns out, Campbellford ended up in seventh place meaning that the two teams will go at it once again here at Dysart Arena this afternoon at 2 pm.

One thing is certain: the Hawks will not be looking past their first opponent to the best of three semi-final series slated for next week.

"We will have to play well to win that quarterfinal," said Yake.

He allowed that the Hawks did manage a very solid performance against Campbellford last Wednesday and that should bode well for the Hawks this afternoon.

"We played very well in the whole game, but especially in the third period," said Yake. "We scored two of our three goals in the final period and that's when we really took control of the game."

Yake was impressed especially with the play of his defense which did suffer some last second hiccups in a 4-3 loss to Cobourg West last Monday night at home.

"Our defense had a solid game and that was good to see, especially after that loss on Monday," said Yake.

Alex Monk-Cray earned the win on Thursday and Yake said he had a solid game in goal, even though neither goaltender came under too much duress in the contest.

"There were not a high number of shots on goal in the game, and both teams played steady on defense," said Yake.

Both Monk-Cray and Paddy Manuge have carried their weight in net this season and Yake has always said that he is confident with either guy in net. If seasonal trends persist, Manuge will probably get the call on Thursday, as the goalenders have been rotating throughout the season. ■

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Hal High Qualifies for COSSA Cross Country

Maddie Ferracuti Glides Past Competition

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

Competitive fires burn deep within the heart of any competitive Nordic ski racer.

The embers tend to keep the cold at bay.

Hal High's Maddie Ferracuti is imbued with a smoldering competitive streak that ignited into pyrotechnics last Wednesday at the Glebe Park Nordic trails. Ferracuti moved smoothly over a challenging course in the Kawartha Zone Nordic Ski Meet to win the senior girls freestyle event in a cakewalk. Ferracuti finished over two minutes ahead of her nearest rival in capturing the senior girls gold.

Red Hawk coach Sharon Dibblee is never amazed by stellar efforts put in by her competitive cross country team, and she said that Ferracuti remains its shining star this season.

"She skied a really nice race," said Dibblee, who, along with Bruce Griffith coaches seven die-hard members of a small but competitive Red Hawk Nordic team.

In fact all seven members of the Hal High race team qualified for advancement to COSSA which was run at the challenging Glebe Park track on Tuesday this week. (We could not include COSSA results because time constraints.)

Seven may seem like a small contingent, but Dibblee is quick to point out that quality often trumps quantity in specialty events like Cross Country.

It takes a special breed of athlete to compete through the cold, rain, sleet, and snow. And it's a very short season, requiring a huge and physically draining adrenaline crunch. And like Ferracuti - who competes in four other sports at Hal High - most of the athletes competing Nordic for Hal High are also involved in other sports, so Dibblee had some legitimate reasons to smile last Wednesday.

Dibblee explained that Nordic ski numbers are affected by the weather and the past two years have left the Highlands and indeed other parts of Ontario bereft of snow. This year, a huge snow-



Maddie Ferracuti



Scott Henwood

drop contributed to a resurgence of available trails, but the athlete numbers are still not where Griffith, Dibblee and other Ontario high school coaches would like to see them. "Numbers are down at all of our member schools," said Dibblee.

That said, this year's Haliburton Highlands Secondary School team is looking very good as competition moved to the COSSA Nordic Meet on Tuesday.

Dibblee said that because of the fickle nature of snow cover in Ontario over the past decade, high school cross country events are compressed into a small corridor in February.

"We used to hold OFSAA (provincial meets) in March, but because of snow, we can't do that anymore," said Dibblee.

And so this week Glebe Park will be hosting COSSA and Dibblee is pretty confident that a majority of her athletes will be moving on to the OFSAA Championships slated for February 26-27 in Midland.

"We're likely to qualify four kids for the

OFSAA meet," said Dibblee.

Ferracuti, who competed in the OFSAAs last season will almost assuredly be moving on again. Ferracuti, a fierce competitor, has some pretty reasonable expectations when it comes to the provincials. "Oh, I figure that I'll probably finish somewhere in the middle of the pack," said Ferracuti last Monday. "They're just wicked skiers."

However, she's a competitor and allowed that she'll be giving it her all. "I've never skied in Midland so I have no idea what to expect, but it's an honour just to go and compete in the provincials," said Ferracuti.

Claire Flatman also qualified for COSSA just behind Ferracuti in the senior girls' event.

In other racing categories Cody Pringle won the bronze in the Novice Girls event. Josh Wright captured a bronze medal in the junior boys' race. In senior boys, Dan Wright captured silver, while Connor Duhaime and Scott Henwood qualified to the COSSA Meet in that senior boys category.

Duhaime will not be able to race on Tuesday because of a prior commitment to the HHSS Curling team. He will be leading a strong Red Hawk curling team into the provincial spiel wars on two fronts beginning this week. ■

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Dog Sled Races - 2009



Tanya McCready and Hank DeBrun, proprietors of Winterdance Dogsled Tours, had fingers crossed after last week's spring thaw threatened a cancellation or postponement of the annual Haliburton Dogsled Derby at Pinestone Resort. However, clear sunny skies and -20 celcius overnight lows on Thursday and Friday arrived just in time to resurrect the event. Some last minute trail grooming had to be done quickly to get the three-kilometer course into shape, but over 70 competitors eventually arrived at the Haliburton Dogsled Derby and the event, which this year fell on the Family Day Weekend was a smashing success. McCready said, at the Awards ceremony on Sunday evening, that sponsors, in spite of the economic downturn came through in a big way this year. Mushers arrived from Ontario, Quebec, Maine and Wisconsin. Duane Rabit, a Jamaican dogsled racer, came back for his second year. He made sure to thank Winterdance, the Pinestone and all of the tourney sponsors for their efforts while accepting his award in the Delta Pinestone ballroom.



LYN WHITE
PHOTOGRAPHER



For week of Feb. 23/09

Horoscopes

It's in the Stars

BORN THIS WEEK: You get great joy out of creating beautiful things and sharing them with others who appreciate them.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Try to say as little as possible about the work you're doing through the end of the month. Then you can make your announcement and accept your well-deserved plaudits.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You face a more difficult challenge than you expected. But with that strong Taurean determination, you should be able to deal with it successfully by week's end.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Before you act on your "feelings" about that upcoming decision, it might be wise to do a little fact-checking first. You could be very much surprised by what you don't find.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A recent workplace success can open some doors that were previously closed to you. On a personal level, expect to receive some important news from a longtime friend and colleague.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Put your wounded pride aside and do what you must to heal that misunderstanding before it takes a potentially irreversible turn and leaves you regretting the loss of a good friend.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) One way to kick a less-than-active social life into high gear or rebuild an outdated Rolodex file is to throw one of your well-organized get-togethers for friends and associates.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Getting out of an obligation you didn't really want to take on can be tricky. An honest explanation of the circumstances can help. Next time, pay more attention to your usually keen instincts.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Use your Scorpion logic to push for a no-nonsense approach to a perplexing situation. This could help keep present and potential problems from creating more confusion.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A friend's problem might take more time than you want to give. But staying with it once again proves the depth of your Sagittarian friendship and loyalty.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) The Sea Goat can benefit from an extra dose of self-confidence to unsettle your detractors, giving you the advantage of putting on a strong presentation of your position.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You might want to ask a friend or relative for advice on an ongoing personal matter. But be careful not to give away information you might later wish you had kept secret.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Use the weekend for a creativity break to help restore your spiritual energy. Once that's done, you'll be back and more than ready to tackle whatever challenge you need to face.



DEAR ABBY: My husband "William" and I have been married 32 years. I love him dearly, but his health is poor. William is only 55, has had five heart attacks and has three stents in his heart. His last visit to the ER included being hit with paddles because his heart had stopped. In spite of this, my husband continues to smoke, eat whatever he wants and so on. I feel as if I am just waiting for him to die.

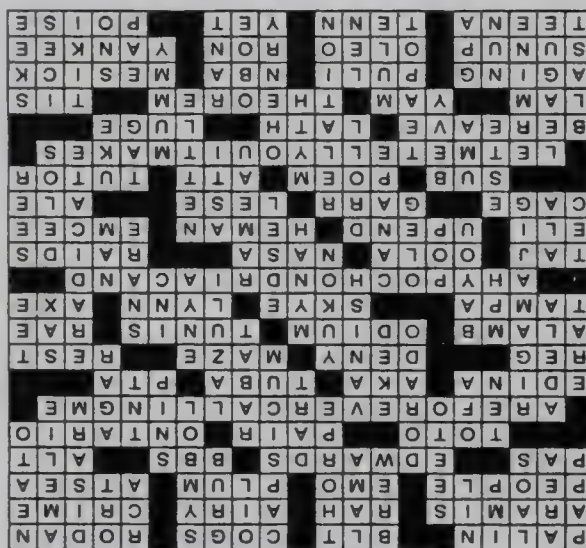
I think about this all the time. When I try to call my husband and he doesn't answer, I envision him at home dead on the floor. We have made all the arrangements necessary for when the time comes. We recently moved into a new home. William works constantly around the house and then complains to me about how tired he gets. When I encourage him to take it easy and rest, he says, "I have to get everything done before I die." It's driving me crazy. How do I end these obsessive thoughts of my husband dying? It scares me to think of life without him. We have been together since I was a teenager. Other times I feel as if his death will actually set me free. William is a good man, and I'm troubled by these constant nagging thoughts. Any advice would be a blessing. -- WAITING IN TEXAS

DEAR WAITING: Considering the circumstances, your concern is normal. If my husband had had five heart attacks and didn't take care of himself, I would be worried sick, too. It is very important that you understand and accept that your husband is living his life on his own terms, exactly the way he wants to -- smoking, eating, fixing up the house so it will be "perfect" for the woman he loves. Enjoy him to the fullest and be thankful for every day you have with him, because the more you obsess about losing him, the less you will be able to enjoy the present. If you think about it -- the present is all that anybody is guaranteed. A talk with a therapist or a member of the clergy -- so you'll have someone to lean on when the time comes -- may help you make your way through the process of acceptance.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am a responsible adult, age 28. I have a college degree and a good job. I pay my bills on time and own my own home. My situation is I had a child when I was a teenager.

Often when people find out that I am his mother, they'll make a comment such as, "Oh, you're too young to have a 12-year-old child." That statement is absolutely correct. However, I don't



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Police Reports

Teen Charged with Impaired

(Haliburton, ON.) -- Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment have charged a male as a result of a vehicle stop early Sunday morning on Highway #35 near Taylor Rd in the Township of Minden Hills.

The driver of the vehicle was arrested after failing a roadside screening device test and taken to the Haliburton Highlands Detachment.

Charged with Impaired Driving and Drive Over 80mgs is Tyler Crossett 19 years of Huntsville Ontario. Mr. Crossett will be appearing in Minden court on March 4, 2009 in relation to the charges. ■

Racing Charges Filed by Haliburton Highlands OPP

(Haliburton, ON.) -- Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment have charged a male with Racing as a result of a vehicle stop this past weekend.

On Sunday February 15, 2009 shortly after 10 pm an officer was conducting radar on Highway #35 in the Township of Minden Hills when he observed a GMC Acadia traveling northbound at more than 50km/h over the posted 80 km/h speed limit.

The vehicle was stopped and the driver Darivoj Vranich 56 years of Oakville was charged with Racing, contrary to the Highway Traffic Act. The vehicle being operated by Mr. Vranich was also seized for seven days. ■

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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HALIBURTON VILLAGE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA

Annual General Meeting Haliburton Village BIA Monday, February 23 - 7 p.m. at The Rails End Gallery 23 York Street, Haliburton

Purpose: To Receive Treasurer's Report
and Proposed '09 Budget.
Receive Nominations for and Install '09 Officers

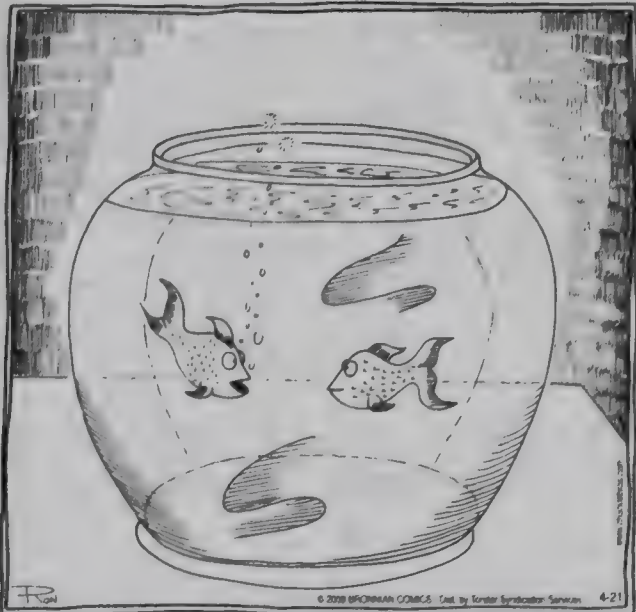
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7	6	2	1	9	8	3	5	4
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Weekly SUDOKU

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IAN MYERS

PHONE: 705-286-1245

EMAIL: ianmyers@myerschimney.com

Website: www.myerschimney.com

Super Crossword

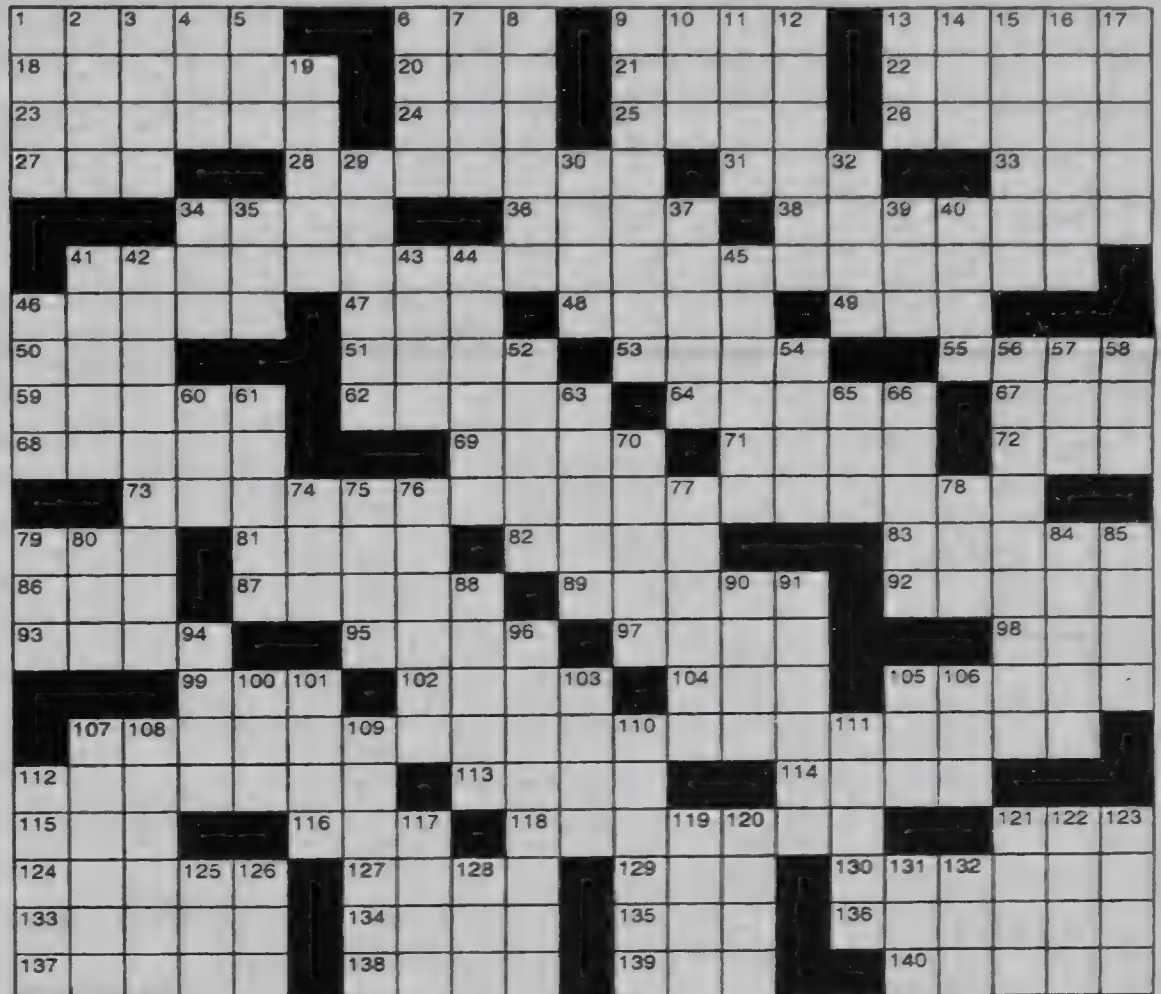
ILL HUMOR

ACROSS

- 1 Monty Python's Michael
- 6 Deli choice
- 9 Gear teeth
- 13 Film pterodactyl
- 18 Porthos' pal
- 20 Team scream
- 21 Well-ventilated
- 22 Felony
- 23 Start of a remark
- 24 Funnyman Phillips
- 25 Deep purple
- 26 Confused
- 27 Faux —
- 28 Vince of "Ben Casey"
- 31 Small shots
- 33 PC key
- 34 "Rosanna" rockers
- 36 Couple
- 38 Part of HOMES
- 41 Part 2 of remark
- 46 Minnesota city
- 47 Alias initials
- 48 Heavy metal instrument?
- 49 Child welfare org.
- 50 Mil. unit
- 51 Say it isn't so
- 53 Labyrinth
- 55 Relax
- 59 Gentle as —
- 62 Abhorrence
- 64 A Barbary State
- 67 "Norma —" ('79 film)
- 68 Buccaneers' head-quarters
- 69 Actress lone
- 71 Football's Swann
- 72 Woodsman's tool
- 73 Part 3 of remark
- 79 — Mahal
- 81 Alley Oop's love
- 82 Out-of-this-world org.
- 83 Invasions
- 86 President Bush was one
- 87 Overtum
- 89 Macho type
- 92 Roast host
- 93 Circus sight
- 95 Teri of "Tootsie"
- 97 — majesty
- 98 Canterbury quaff
- 99 Hoagy
- 102 Wordsworth work
- 104 ABA member
- 105 Teach on the side
- 107 Part 4 of remark
- 112 Deprive (of)
- 113 Wooden strip
- 114 Olympic event
- 115 Flight
- 116 Tasty tuber
- 118 Proposition
- 121 Carol opener
- 124 Inevitable activity
- 127 Hungarian sheepdog
- 129 Shaq's pack
- 130 End of remark
- 133 Daybreak
- 134 Toast topper
- 135 Perlman or Palillo
- 136 Bostonian, for one
- 137 "The Brandon — Story" ('98 film)
- 138 So. state
- 139 Still
- 140 Self-confidence
- 5 Zilch
- 6 Make coffee
- 7 "Rama — Ding Dong" ('61 tune)
- 8 Legendary athlete Jim
- 9 Pepper
- 10 Vinegar's partner
- 11 Chow
- 12 Token
- 13 JVC competitor
- 14 Terrier's tidbit
- 15 Win over
- 16 Audrey Tautou role
- 17 Peachy-keen
- 19 Take care of
- 20 El —, AR
- 29 Tapered seam
- 32 Cut a cuticle
- 34 Decimal base
- 35 Two — kind
- 37 Morocco's capital
- 39 Cable channel
- 40 Thickening agent
- 41 Writer Rogers St. Johns
- 42 Thingumbob
- 43 Got by, with "out"
- 44 Disappear
- 45 Lapis —
- 46 Part of Q.E.D.
- 52 Canadian territory
- 54 "Only Time" singer
- 56 Destroy
- 57 Getz's instrument
- 58 Fairway accessory
- 60 Speedometer abbr.
- 61 "Blue —" ('77 hit)
- 63 Blabby bird
- 65 Business abbr.
- 66 — drum
- 70 One of the Fords
- 74 Weasel word?
- 75 First name in fashion
- 76 Finger food
- 77 Composer Jean-Philippe
- 78 "Platoon" setting
- 79 Gumshoe
- 80 Chicken — king
- 84 Apollo's isle
- 85 Soothsayer
- 88 Witty
- 90 Vito center
- 91 Irritate
- 94 Punta del —
- 96 Link
- 100 Actress Thurman
- 101 Bunch of birds
- 103 "Pyramus and Thisbe," e.g.
- 105 Playground game
- 106 Luau instrument
- 107 Confederation
- 108 January stoat
- 109 Earl Grey's place
- 110 William Sydney Porter
- 111 Man of the cloth?
- 112 Great time
- 117 Stubbom sort
- 119 Hautboy
- 120 Be bombastic
- 121 "Kon- —"
- 122 Summer-time treats
- 123 — -Ball
- 125 "Sister Act" extra
- 126 Scholastic abbr.
- 128 Deighton or Dawson
- 131 "The Belle" monogram
- 132 — -Cat

DOWN

- 1 Theatrical Joseph
- 2 District
- 3 Neighbor of Thailand
- 4 Mischief-maker



Happy Birthday

**LOOK
WHO IS
JOINING
THE BIG
40 CLUB**



**Happy
Birthday
Duane**



Love,
Tracey, Coral
& Skylar

Notices

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

We are looking for innovative organizations with BIG ideas!

In anticipation of funding, the Haliburton County Development Corporation is seeking to partner with not-for-profit organizations looking to undertake innovative initiatives with the potential of making a significant impact on the community economic development of Haliburton County.

Priority will be given to initiatives in the advanced stages of planning that will:

- enhance economic development,
- involve partners, and
- have a lead organization with the capacity to undertake this initiative.

The HCDC invites eligible organizations to submit a letter of interest and executive summary outlining the initiative, the proposed budget, funding requested from HCDC, partners, impact on Haliburton County. HCDC contribution may be up to \$100,000.

Applicants may be invited to prepare a presentation for consideration. To discuss the process and receive guidelines please contact the HCDC office at:

(705) 457-3555 or e-mail: ptallman@haliburtoncdc.ca or visit www.haliburtoncdc.ca

Please submit letter of interest NO LATER THAN MARCH 31st, 2009. Initiatives must be completed by March 31st, 2010.

P.O. Box 210 Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0

All projects are funded in partnership with Industry Canada.



Municipality of Dysart et al

TENDER FOR RE-POINTING MUNICIPAL OFFICE

The Municipality of Dysart et al is inviting tenders for the re-pointing of the municipal office located at 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton.

Tender Documents and execution forms can be obtained at the Dysart Municipal Office, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton, Ontario or on our website at www.dysartet.al.ca.

Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 30th, 2009.

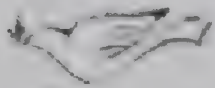
Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

NOTICE OF MEETING TIME CHANGE

Pursuant to By-law No. 2007-145, as amended, notice is hereby provided that the Council Meeting on Monday, March 2nd, 2009, will start at 9:00 a.m. to consider the 2009 Preliminary Budget.

Tammy McKelvey, A.M.C.T.
CAO/Clerk

Death Notices



Charlotte 'Lottie' Nicholls
(Resident of Wilberforce, Ontario)

Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on Thursday morning, January 29, 2009 in her 93rd year. Predeceased by her husbands William Mathews and Bert Nicholls. She leaves her sons Dan (Arlene), Bob and Rick (Teresa). Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Toni, Sherry (Bill), Parish (Julie), Travis, Jason, her great grandchildren Tom, Samantha, Katie, Michael, Tyler, Dakota, Wyatt and her great great granddaughter Madisson. Predeceased by her grandson Ben, her granddaughter Robbin, and great grandson Mathew. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews.

Visitation & Memorial Service

A Memorial Gathering will be held at the **MAPLE VIEW APTS** 2117 Loop Road, Wilberforce, Ontario on Saturday afternoon, February 21, 2009 from 1 until 3 o'clock. Interment later Resthaven Memorial Gardens, Toronto. As expressions of sympathy donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

In Memory of

*In Loving
Memory of*
Blaine Murray Sisson



Passed away peacefully at his home in Haliburton on Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at the age of 62.

Beloved husband of Connie (nee Young). Dear father of Shannon Feir and her husband Derek, Spencer and his wife Lori, Sheri Griffiths and her husband Clive and Kevin Guerin and his wife Sabrina. Stepfather to Kyle and Katrina Robinson. Loving grampa of Nathan, Sydney, Shayla, Logan, Reanna, Zoe and Kathryn. Dear son of the late Andy Sisson and Shirley (nee Cooper). Brother of Helen and husband Ronald, Bernard and his wife Joyce, Iris and her husband Joseph, Emma and her husband Ronald, Byron and his wife Sylvia, Aldyth and her husband Curry, Eleanor and her husband Richard, and Earle and his wife Louise. Fondly remembered as a lover of life by his friends and family. He will be missed.

Remembrance and Reception

Friends and family are invited to West Guilford Community Centre on Friday February 13, 2009 from 4:00 until 7:00 pm, with a time to celebrate and share stories of Blaine's life at 5:00 pm. There will be a private family interment in the spring. In lieu of flowers, Memorial Donations to the Four C's or to the Highland Wood Residence Council would be appreciated and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

Correction Notice:

We would like to apologise to the family of the late Charlotte Nicholls for the previous ad error placed in the February 5th County Voice newspaper.

Say
you
saw it
in the
Voice!!

In memory
of my beloved sons
Ken who left us
Feb. 3, 1991
and Ray who joined him
Feb. 20, 1991.
We who love you,
sadly miss you.
As it dawns another year
in our lonely hours
of thinking of you both
are ever near.
Always together in life.
Together with
their Lord.
Forever loved.
Anne and Laurie

Hunter, Dennis

In loving memory of a dear father and grandfather who passed away February 21st, 2002.

*The days are gone that we used to share,
but in our hearts you're always there.*

Sadly missed by Steven, Michelle, Matthew and Lucas, Gregg and Rebecca.

Remembering Your Loved One

Show how much you care by placing your "In Memory Of" ad today in The County Voice.

Call Today! 457-5001

Announcements

County Voice *Easy to Read* Classifieds

Deadline for Classifieds is every Monday at noon

Pets & Agriculture

K9 CLIPPERS & KENNELS
2153 HARBURN ROAD. Professional Grooming Service & friendly, loving home away from home 1-705-457-3614 Natasha Coumbs. (E1209-0010)

ARE YOU A GOLDEN RETRIEVER BELIEVER?
Golden Rescue, The Canadian Golden Retriever Adoption Service Inc. URGENTLY needs foster homes, vet services, "forever" homes, donations, members, fundraisers/volunteers. Help us care for this magnificent breed. Anything you can do would be greatly appreciated. For information please contact us at 1-866-712-8444 or visit www.golden-rescue.net. (E1209-0011)

Lost

LOST - Sterling Haida Eagle ring. Size 8. 457-9261

For Rent

FOR RENT - 4 bedroom home in Ingoldsby \$750 plus utilities. Electric baseboard and wood heat. References are required. 1st and Last. Due to insurance no smokers and no pets. Call 286-2900. Available Apr. 1, 2009. (D0209-0053)

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom apartment located 2 miles north of Minden. \$595 a month plus hydro. Call Mike at 457-5597 (C0209-0050)

FOR RENT - 1 bedroom, well maintained apartment available. Maple Lake area. Private deck, parking, heat, hydro and basic satellite included. Non-smoker, no pets. \$625 a month. Call (705) 754-9732 (C0209-0045)

Coming Events

For Rent

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom "furnished" apartment for rent in Haliburton Available now until fall. \$650.00 per month + utilities. 3 kms of town just past the Independent. References required. Ask for Ray 705-457-1402 days. (E1209-0013)

Storage Rentals

SELF STORAGE UNITS - 24 hour access, 260 Industrial Park Road, Haliburton. Call (705) 457-9732 (C0209-0033)

For Sale

FOR SALE - Girls Ski helmet sized small \$15.00. Size 7 girls ski boots \$35. Both yellow in colour. Also available Frigidaire, ceramic stove \$600. Computer cabinet \$75.00. Call 286-6790 (C0209-0054)

FOR SALE - Kingsley Mantel Electric Fireplace Dark Cherry Wood. 4250 btu. 13 mon. old 750w, 1500w. Cost \$349.99, sell \$175.00 Can be used as wall or corner unit. 286 2988 (C0209-0052)

WOOD FOR SALE - Cut, split and delivered. Order early for next year. Call Darren at 754-9988 (C0209-0051)

FOR SALE - Antique Teak Stereo - Made in the '50's. Good working condition, good shape. \$100 o.b.o. Call Christine 488-1748 (C0209-0049)

FOR SALE - Cut, split and delivered. Place your firewood ordered now. Call Darren 754-9988 (D0209-0040)

For Sale

FOR SALE - Automotive, Snowmobile, ATV, Marine Parts & Accessories. Complete line of Hunting, Archery, Fishing tackle, Paintball, Soft Air Guns & Accessories, and Live Bait & Licensing. The Wild Outdoors formerly CC Enterprises. 163 Highland Street, Haliburton (705) 457- 5334 Open 7 days a week. (D0609-0018)

FOR SALE - NEW COMPLETE SEPTIC SYSTEMS. 30 Years of experience in Minden and Haliburton area. We take care of all paperwork and permits. Fully licenced, health unit inspected. Call for a free estimate, Brent Colman Trucking and Escavating at 705-286-3952 or 1-800-357-8711 (E1209-0019)

Wanted

WANTED - Vintage toys and collectables. (e.g. trading cards, comic books, dolls and action figures) Call 457-1515 (C0209-0052)

WANTED - Old or antique used furniture, one piece or whole estates bought plus clean-up of everything also cars, trucks, boats trailers if the price is right I will make you a deal on anything call Richard in Tory Hill at 448-3920. Clean up of scrap cars or metal as well. (E1209-0023)

Services

SNOWPLOWING and Roof Shoveling around Minden Area. Reasonable rates, fully insured. Call Dave Shaw for more information 286-6739 (C0209-0035)

HOME DAYCARE SERVICES PROVIDED - Daycare available in town of Minden. Over 20 years experience. Warm, loving, attentive care. Current CPR & First Aid. Small child to caregiver ratio. Specializing in infant and toddler care. Only 2 full time spaces available. Call 286-1668 (D0209-0024)

FROZEN PIPES? Water, septic, ice buildup, culverts. Call 286-1995 (C0309-0025)

Thank You

Services

FTA SATELLITE SYSTEMS
1000's of channels, no program fees, all satellite system installs. 306-0023 (local call) (E1209-0027)

ODDjobjack-your local handyman 448-9965 For any and all odd jobs. What can we do for you? Email oddjobjack@yahoo.ca (E1209-0028)

Notices

EVERYONE WELCOME:
To a variety musical concert at Maple Lake United Church (Hwy #118 at Stanhope Airport). February 21, 2009 starting at 7 pm. Freewill offering - Refreshments. (C0209 - 0048)

CELEBRATE RECOVERY, A Christ-centered recovery group for all of life's hurts, habits, and hang-ups. A time of worship, teaching, Small Groups, and community. Meet others journeying this same road as you, & take steps towards freedom from the addictive, compulsive and dysfunctional behaviours that hold your life back. Every Monday Night 7 - 10 PM at Lakeside Baptist Church, 9 Park Street, Haliburton. 457-2851 www.celebraterecovery.com (E1209-0029)

Thank You

Thank You

We would like to thank Ed's Doctor, Steve Ferracuti, the staff of the Access Center especially Karena, Helen and Gwen for their care of and kindness of Ed. To Dwaine and the staff of Haliburton Community Funeral Home for their concern and professionalism. To our friends and neighbours for their thoughtfulness. Father Ric, The C.W.L. and Earl Coopers Piping made Ed's service on February 4th a memorable day.

Thank you all.
The Family of Ed McGrath

For Sale

STORE DISPLAY FIXTURES FOR SALE
V&S and Crafts & More
Call 457-2715

Help Wanted

Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton Housing Corporation

Vacancy on Board of Directors

The Board of the Corporation invites interested persons to apply to serve on the Board. The Board is seeking members to fill one vacancy which became vacant on January 1, 2009. This is a one year term position.

Experience in serving on the board of a non-profit agency is preferred.

Applications may be obtained from the office of the Corporation at the address below, or from Haliburton County at 11 Newcastle Street, Minden, Ontario.

Applications are to be submitted by February 27th, 2009.

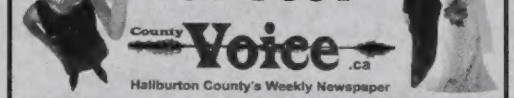
Applicants are asked to submit their applications and any supporting information such as resumes to:

Hope Lee, Secretary
Kawartha Lakes - Haliburton Housing Corporation
322 Kent Street West
Lindsay, ON. K9V 4S7
(705) 324-6401 ex. 102

ADVERTISE YOUR SPECIAL DAY WITH US!

If you have an anniversary, birthday, wedding or special event that you would like to advertise, call us today!

457-5001



FREE TO GOOD HOME

FOR ADOPTION

Goldie and Cassandra

Both dogs are approx 1 year old and just recently rescued.
Free to good homes.

Must agree to have the dog spayed immediately at the vet of your choice.

Call 705 286 6162 or email argofan1@aol.com



ecoEnergy Evaluations



Call **Know Your Home Inspections Inc.** for your professional home energy evaluation at (705) 454-9384. ecoEnergy is a program of Natural Resources Canada. The Federal government, with matching Ontario Provincial government funding, can provide up to \$10,000 for specific energy efficient upgrades for your home. See the website www.professionalhomeinspections.ca under the tab "Existing Homes" for more information or come to the event at Minden United Church, February 28th.

Know Your Home Inspections Inc. is partnering with Minden United Church to help Haliburton County residents save energy when heating their homes.

Bring your questions to this informative event. Listen to the experience of people in our community on how they saved energy and made their homes safer and healthier.

Free Energy Savings Event

Date: Saturday, February 28th, 2009
Time: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Place: 21 Newcastle Street, Minden United Church

Thank You

SIRCH
Community Services & Consulting

SIRCH Community Services & Consulting would like to gratefully acknowledge and thank Nutram, The Delta Pinestone Resort, Winterdance, Vista Signs and The Haliburton Soap Factory for supporting our Healthy Children Program at the Dog Sled Races on February 14th & 15th. We simply couldn't do it without you! Thanks to the generous donation of Nutram the Healthy Children Program raised over \$1800.00 in donations—we are grateful for Nutram's commitment to the health of Haliburton families and to all who donated for this cause.
The staff of SIRCH Community Services & Consulting

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS!

up to **70% OFF**

**Beds • Sofas
Chaise Chairs
Kids Beds**

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EVERYTHING MUST GO!



It has been a pleasure serving Haliburton County for the past 15 years.

Churko Home Furniture



**Home
furniture**

County Road 121 West, Haliburton
Ph: (705) 457-9571 Toll Free: 877-624-8756



Remarkable Bird Atlas Revealed

Book of Observations Available for Sign-Out at Dysart Public Library

It's a book that identifies the habits of over 300 different bird species in Ontario and since the first edition of the Ontario Bird Breeding Atlas was released (1981 – 2005) an incredible 150,000 hours have been logged by bird observers in the field.

And now, because of the generosity of the Haliburton Highlands Field Naturalists (HHFN), the Dysart branch of the Haliburton County Public Library has this 706-page book.

"Part of our mandate is to reach out to the public," said Mac Ellis, President of the HHFN, when asked why the group donated the book to the library.

The HHFN is a non-profit organization that has been in Haliburton County since 1992 and is made up of individuals who have a thirst to acquire knowledge about nature and nature related subjects.

The group often hosts community forums inviting members of the public to attend to learn about the environment and species that inhabit certain areas. Expert guest speakers are often brought in to lead discussions on the featured topic.

This most recent Ontario Bird Breeding Atlas (2001 – 2005) also contains detailed maps that show the current distribution of each breeding species in the Province, and how its distribution has changed over the past 20 years.

To find out how you can now sign-out out this informative and colourful reference book, call the Dysart Library at 705 457-1791 or visit the building at Mountain St. in Haliburton. ■



The bird breeding book.



Don Finigan with Mac Ellis, President of the Haliburton Highlands Field Naturalists.

Speaking of Birds...

These fantastic photos were taken by Tim Tofflemire - once catching the little bird in action.



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Red Hawk Foursome have Some Sweeping Goals

Red Hawk Curlers Brace for Busy Week

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

The Gore Mutual Ontario School Curling Championship is a prestigious event.

Held yearly at the venerable old High Park Curling club in the heart of that famous and moneyed Toronto chi-chi neighborhood the Gore Bonspiel is a nice perk on the high school curling calendar.

High Park Club is Toronto's oldest curling club, and features five of the city's best-maintained sheets of curling ice.

Established in 1839, Gore Mutual has a long history of supporting Canadian athletes. Their sponsorship is believed to be the longest consecutive sponsorship of a sporting event in Canada. Eight boys and eight girls teams are invited each year.

Al in all a pretty impressive pedigree and nice to be invited, but for four intense and competitive Haliburton High curlers, the Gore is but one stop on their textured curling calendar which stretches from late August all the way to March.

Skip Connor Duhaime, third Curtis Nichol, second Jesse Walker and lead Owen Duhaime have thrown a lot of rocks this year. They began their quest for a Kawartha Zone crown this week on Tuesday afternoon. They will be heading off to High Park Curling Club and the prestigious Gore Spiel this weekend. Action starts on Thursday Feb 19 and runs through to the finals on Saturday Feb 21st.

The Hal High foursome will be one of the favorites in the eight team field.

And while winning the Gore would be nice, all four have their sights set on the bigger prize.

Connor, erstwhile skip and back for his fifth year of high school says that the Hal High contingent wants to do well at the Gore; but he says that the team is bracing and prepping for a run at the all Ontario championship.

"We're all pretty excited about the Gore," says the elder Duhaime, "but our goal is OFSAA"

The four boys are gathered at the Haliburton Curling club on a Monday night with their coach Tom Dibblee. Nichol, Walker and Duhaime, the younger, all agree that they will be taking the Gore very seriously, but will also be

looking at the competition as just another opportunity to hone their skills and test their mettle in preparation for their participation in Kawartha, and possible advancement to COSSA and OFSAA play downs.

The team has lost just once in league play this season and boast an impressive 9-1 record. Their only loss, ironically coming to LCVI, the only team in their draw that



Hal High hurrying hard to a possible date with destiny this season.

did not advance into the Kawartha play downs this week.

That, says Dibblee, down to the fickle nature of curling and the notion that any team on any night can beat the best team in the world, if the ice, the breaks and the karma is right.

Meanwhile, the Red Hawk foursome says that it owes a huge nod to the Monday night competitive curling league here in Haliburton. Connor says that the experience is invaluable, the competition stiff and the opportunity to throw rocks regularly as a team has pushed their fortunes thus far into the season.

And perhaps more important is that all-encompassing humility factor. "The old guys beat us sometimes," laughs Owen. Old guys do that sometimes, just to keep the whippersnappers honest.

The Monday nights are important for this young team. Kudos to the local curling rink for providing the venue and welcoming the boys to the league.

Nichol says that the team is happy playing a hitting or softer game. However, all heads nod in unison when Connor says flatly that the hitting game is where it's at for this team.

"We play both styles, but we like to keep it clean and leave the center open, so we're more comfortable with the hitting game," smiles Connor. "It all depends on the level of curling," adds Walker, who is in grade 11. Both Connor Duhaime and Nichol will be moving on to university next year and Walker and Owen (who is in grade 10) say they will be spending some time at the end of this season looking for two additions to the rink.

But that's next year. This year, the Gore, and the Kawartha play downs form the backdrop to some pretty heady and challenging times this week.

Interested curling fans can track the Red Hawk team's progress at the Gore Bonspiel by going on line at www.gorecurling.com. Follow the links to results.

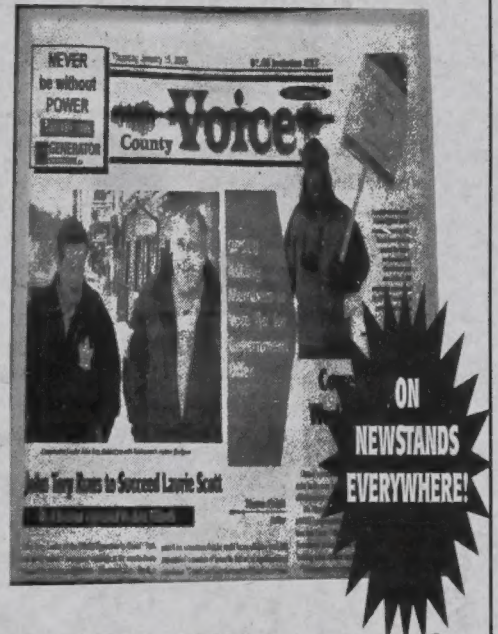
Extra Ends: Voice sports will follow up on this article with an in-depth feature with Haliburton's favorite foursome next week. Stay tuned to the Voice for more curling. If you have any tourney news or a spiel you want covered get in touch with us at Voice Sports at 457-5001. ■

1 WEEK LEFT

FREE in your mail box.

The County Voice is changing the way it distributes its newspaper.

Beginning March 5, 2009 The County Voice will be available through subscriptions and on newsstands everywhere throughout the county but will no longer be delivered FREE to homes. You will still receive it Free in the mail weekly until then.



Don't Worry Be Happy!

WE HAVE A DEAL 4 YOU!

Early Bird Subscription Sale

Order your subscription for the County Voice between now and March 5th and

SAVE \$10.00

1 YEAR LOCAL
SUBSCRIPTION

ON SALE \$39.00
GST Included
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Haliburton County's Weekly Newspaper

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Minden 286-2138 Carnarvon 489-9968

The Local Experts™

Large Home Beautiful Lot \$250,000



Almost 3.5 acres in Lochlin, 3 BR & rec room. Attached garage, wkshp in bsmt, MF master & 2 baths. Small pond & lots of pines. A must see!

Dagmar Boettcher- 286-2138

Country Living \$179,000



Affordable country living at this super 3 BR, 2 bath home with family room, laundry room, screened in porch, carport and short stroll to lake access!

Derrell and Kim Stamp 457-2128

Sharon Lake \$199,900



Cosy 2 BR on no-motor lake. Original pine plank flooring, new pine ceilings and over 400sq.ft. of decking. End of road location and 5 acre lot provides privacy.

Anne Moulton - 286-2128

Private Lake \$990,000



Executive 4,000 sq ft home on private lake close to Minden. Swim, canoe, or fish on the lake, and then go for a hike on the extensive trails to the waterfalls.

Tom Wilkinson 286-2138

Recently Renovated! \$189,900



3 BR home, large kitchen, hardwood floors, stone f/p, large rec room could be 4th bed, w/attached single car garage, walk to all the amenities of Haliburton.

Greg Stamp 457-2128

Home on 1 Acre \$127,900



Cute 2 bedroom home near Carnarvon with many recent upgrades. Close to snowmobile trail and public access to Kushog Lake.

Kristin Withey 286-2138

Country Charm \$399,000



Lindal cedar 3 Br, 3 bath home. Wooded setting & stream. Excellent location. Turn key. Vaulted ceilings, skylights, open concept, Jennair appl., fam rm, Dbl garage & more.

John Hincks 286-2138

Return to Real Estate \$569,000



Stocks down, portfolio dropping? Return to the time tested investment of real estate. This one has great rental income as well!

Erin Nicholls 457-2128

Hunter Creek \$83,900



Well cared for home has many upgrades /renos in adult only community just 2 min from Minden. Small maintenance fee covers snow removal, garbage pick up, & more.

Dagmar Boettcher- 286-2138

Serviced Minden Lot! \$34,900



Wonderful Minden lot north on Bobcaygeon Rd. past the schools. Sewers, water, hydro available with service entrance already in. Build your dream home.

Janice Brookes 457-2128

Celebrate Winter! \$529,000



Year round road access, cozy double sided fireplace, furnished cottage, walk to the ski hill! Great 2 lake chain for summer fun as well.

Deborah Deremo & Andrea Wilson 457-2128

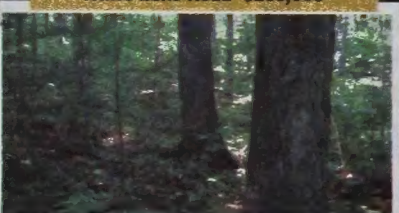
Bungalow \$174,900



This fabulous in town bungalow features 800+ sq ft., 2 BR, a detached 2 car garage, municipal sewers, within walking distance to all of Haliburton's amenities.

Drew Bishop - 457-2128

White Lake Road \$289,000



Lovely property has 10.9 acres, mature forest, yr rd mun rd access, view of & access to White Lake. Hydro and phone are to the property.

Greg Stamp 457-2128

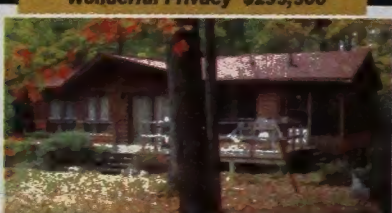
Green Lake \$239,900



Beautiful south facing lot with sand beach and great low maintenance 4 yr old home with full partially finished basement.

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

Wonderful Privacy \$299,900



Great 3 BR cottage with pine floors throughout, cathedral ceiling, woodstove on a beautiful well treed private property. West exp. on a quiet no motor lake.

Mark Dennys 457-2128

Ski Hill Chalet \$315,000



Absolutely beautiful 5 BR, 3 baths in private setting. Recently upgraded interior. Close to Sir Sam's, snowmobile trails & Haliburton Village.

Andrew Hodgson 286-2138

Eagle Lake Area \$219,900



3 BR, 2 bath chalet on over 3 acres of forested property with private pond. Open concept with large kitchen, private master floor with ensuite.

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128

Minden Lake \$364,900



3 BR home/cottage with 167' of waterfront on picturesque Minden Lake. Quiet neighbourhood, great swimming, fishing & near White Water Reserve. Simply move in.

Paul Szpik - 457-2128

Private Eagle Lk Lot \$134,500



More than 3.5 acres, 414 ft of road frontage, over 200 ft of great clean shoreline. Boat on the 2 lake chain. Enjoy Sir Sam's in the winter!

Wilf VanLieshout - 457-2128

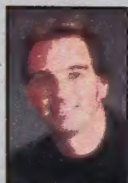
Beech River \$359,000



3 BR Waterfront home, private setting with that "cottage" feel. Sandy shoreline, deep water off dock with excellent access to Beech & Boshkung Lakes.

Tom Ecclestone 286-2128

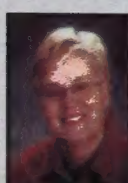
* Sales Representative ** Broker *** Broker of Record



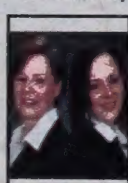
Drew Bishop **
457-2128



Janice Brookes *
457-2128



Dagmar Boettcher *
286-2138



Deborah Deremo** &
Andrea Wilson* 457-2128



Mark Dennys *
457-2128



Tom Ecclestone *
286-2138



Lee Gauthier **
489-9968



John Hincks **
286-2138



Andrew Hodgson *
286-2138



Susanne James *
& Andy Mosher **
457-2128



Anne Moulton *
286-2138



Erin Nicholls*
457-2128



Derrell Stamp ***
& Kim Stamp **
457-2128



Greg Stamp *
457-2128



Paul Szpik *
457-2128



Wilf VanLieshout**
457-2128



Tom Wilkinson **
286-2138



Kristin Withey *
286-2138

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